



# **LIVE BIRTHS**

## **State Summary**



## LIVE BIRTHS

### INTRODUCTION

#### Purpose of Surveillance

A **live birth** is a birth that shows any sign of life after delivery, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy. Signs of life include breathing, heartbeat, pulsation of the umbilical cord, definite movement of voluntary muscles, or any other evidence of life, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached. The terms “live birth” and “birth” are used interchangeably in this chapter.

Birth certificates serve as legal records of birth and identification. They also provide surveillance data used to monitor fertility trends, population composition and growth, and patterns in prenatal and postnatal conditions that affect the immediate and future health of newborns and mothers. Information monitored through birth surveillance includes adequacy of prenatal care, obstetric procedures, complications during delivery, method of delivery, and infant birthweight. Examination of surveillance data helps identify mothers and infants at high risk of poor outcomes and enables effective targeting of research, educational efforts, and services to reduce this risk.

#### Source of Data: Certificate of Live Birth

The birth section of this report is based on live births that occurred to Louisiana residents during the 2001 calendar year. The *Certificate of Live Birth* is the source document for these data. All original birth certificates are routed to the Vital Records Registry in New Orleans. Birth attendants, usually physicians or licensed midwives are responsible for recording the required information on birth certificates. Louisiana law requires that the birthing facility or attendant send the original birth record to the Vital Records Registry within fifteen days of the birth and that the identities of persons included in the birth registry are kept confidential.

Unless otherwise noted, all statistics reported here are for births to Louisiana residents, regardless of the state in which the birth occurred. The Vital Statistics Cooperative Program, a nationwide system of information interchange among all states and territories, makes possible the reporting of out-of-state births to Louisiana residents. As a result of the 1991 implementation of Louisiana’s Electronic Birth Certificate (EBC) program, approximately 85% of all births are reported electronically by the hospital at which the birth occurred. Matching of infant death certificates with the corresponding birth certificates estimates that birth registration in Louisiana is approximately 97% complete.<sup>1</sup>

## BIRTH COUNTS AND RATES

### Number of Births

In the year 2001, there were 65,193 live births to Louisiana residents, a decrease of 2650 or -3.91% from the 67,843 resident births reported in 2000 (*Figure B1, Table B1*).

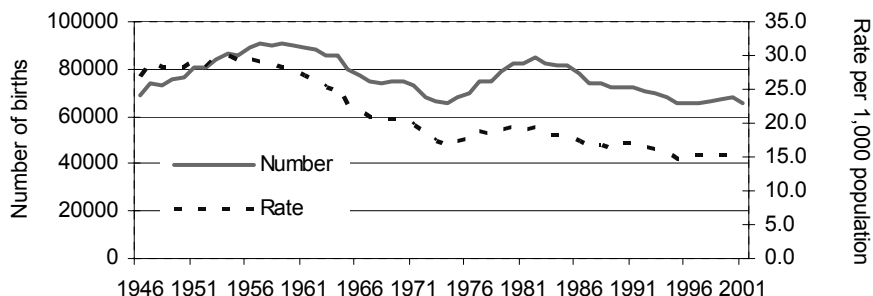
This year- to- year decrease in the number of births in Louisiana is the greatest decrease in the last decade. The nation as a whole saw a decrease of -0.61% in the number of births between 2000 and 2001.<sup>2</sup>

### Crude Birth Rate

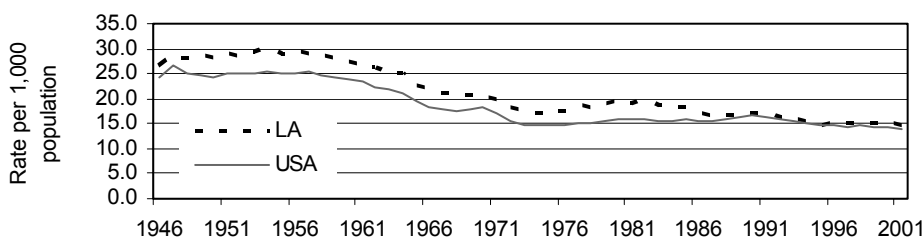
Changes in crude birth rates reflect changes in the number and age distribution of women of childbearing age. Because crude birth rates relate the number of live births to the total population in an area, without regard to the age or sex distribution of the population, they are useful in projecting population changes in the area.

Louisiana's 2001 crude birth rate of 14.6 live births per 1,000 population is substantially lower

**Figure B1. Number of Live Births and Crude Birth Rates, Louisiana, 1946-2001**



**Figure B2: Crude Birth Rates, Louisiana and United States, 1946-2001**



Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics  
National Center for Health Statistics

than the state's rate of 15.2 live births per 1,000 population in 2000 and is similar to the 2000 national rate of 14.4. Crude birth rates in Louisiana and the United States have declined steadily in the last

half-century. The state's crude birth rate has declined 14.1% in the last decade. During this same period, the national birth rate has declined 13.5%<sup>3</sup> (*Figure B2, Table B1*).

**Table B1.**  
**Number of Live Births, Crude Birth Rates, and Percent Changes,**  
**Louisiana and United States, 1977-2001**

Year	Louisiana				United States			
	Number	% change from previous year	Rate*	% change from previous year	Number	% change from previous year	Rate*	% change from previous year
1977	74,989	7.6	18.7	6.2	3,326,632	5.0	15.1	3.3
1978	74,831	-0.2	18.4	-1.6	3,333,279	0.2	15.0	-0.7
1979	79,183	5.8	19.1	3.8	3,494,398	4.8	15.6	3.8
1980	82,114	3.7	19.5	2.1	3,612,258	3.4	15.9	1.9
1981	82,167	0.1	19.1	-2.1	3,629,238	0.5	15.8	-0.6
1982	84,531	2.9	19.3	1.0	3,680,537	1.4	15.9	0.6
1983	82,416	-2.5	18.6	-3.6	3,638,933	-1.1	15.6	-1.9
1984	81,428	-1.2	18.3	-1.6	3,669,141	0.8	15.6	0.0
1985	81,401	0.0	18.1	-1.1	3,760,561	0.8	15.8	1.3
1986	77,944	-4.2	17.3	-4.4	3,756,547	-0.1	15.6	-1.3
1987	73,952	-5.1	16.6	-4.0	3,809,394	1.4	15.7	0.6
1988	73,887	-0.1	16.7	0.6	3,909,510	2.6	16.0	1.9
1989	72,639	-1.7	16.6	-0.6	4,040,958	3.4	16.4	2.4
1990	72,121	-0.7	17.1	3.0	4,158,212	2.9	16.7	1.8
1991	72,080	-0.1	17.0	-0.6	4,110,907	-1.1	16.3	-2.5
1992	70,502	-2.2	16.4	-3.5	4,065,014	-1.1	15.9	-2.5
1993	69,328	-1.7	16.1	-1.8	4,000,240	-1.6	15.5	-2.6
1994	67,802	-2.2	15.7	-2.5	3,952,767	-1.2	15.2	-2.0
1995	65,574	-3.3	14.7	-6.4	3,899,589	-1.3	14.8	-2.7
1996	65,186	-0.6	15.0	2.0	3,891,494	-0.2	14.7	-0.7
1997	65,947	1.2	15.2	1.3	3,880,894	-0.3	14.5	-1.4
1998	66,773	1.3	15.3	0.7	3,941,553	1.6	14.6	0.7
1999	67,034	0.4	15.3	0.0	3,959,417	0.5	14.5	-0.7
2000	67,843	1.21	15.2	-0.7	4,058,814	2.5	14.4	-0.7
2001	65,193	-3.91	14.6	-3.9	4,025,933	-0.8	14.1	-2.1

\*Rate per 1,000 population

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics,  
National Center for Health Statistics

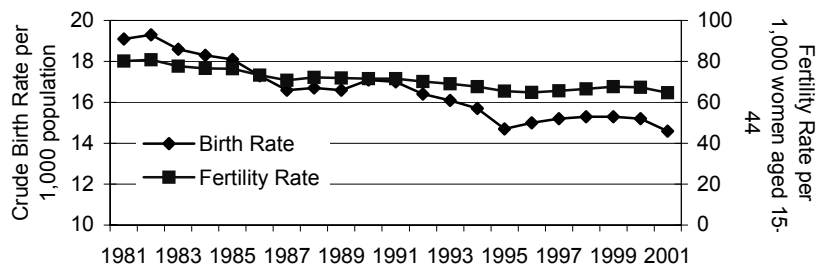
## Fertility Rates

Fertility rates are based solely on women in their prime childbearing years, considered for calculation purposes to be 15-44 years of age. They are more useful than crude birth rates in controlling for differences in age-distribution among women who give birth. These rates are useful for

comparisons of fertility among age, racial, and socioeconomic groups. In the last half-century, Louisiana and the United States have followed a similar fertility pattern, with a trend toward declining fertility rates. Historically, Louisiana has had a higher fertility rate than the national rate. However, Louisiana's 2001 fertility rate of 64.7 births per 1,000 women not only decreased from

2000's rate of 67.4 per 1,000 women, but was less than the United States' 2001 rate of 65.3 births per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years.<sup>4</sup> Following a peak in 1980 of 81.8, Louisiana's fertility rate declined steadily to 64.9 in 1996. Since 1996 the state's fertility rate has remained relatively stable (*Figure B3, Table B2, on following page*).

**Figure B3: Crude Birth Rates and Fertility Rates  
Louisiana, 1981-2001**



**Table B2.  
Crude Birth Rates, Fertility Rates, and Age-Specific Birth Rates  
Louisiana, 1981-2001**

Year	Crude Birth Rate <sup>1</sup>	Fertility Rate <sup>1</sup>	Age-Specific Birth Rate <sup>3</sup> by Maternal Age Group								
			<15 <sup>2</sup>	15-19	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49 <sup>4</sup>
1981	19.1	80.2	2.0	73.9	40.3	135.8	121.6	60.8	22.2	4.8	0.3
1982	19.3	80.7	2.0	75.6	40.9	138.9	120.5	63.7	21.5	5.0	0.3
1983	18.6	77.6	2.0	74.1	39.9	132.9	115.9	63.6	21.9	4.3	0.2
1984	18.3	76.5	2.4	71.6	38.6	130.8	116.5	64.9	22.3	4.2	0.3
1985	18.1	76.4	2.2	72.4	38.8	131.3	117.2	66.2	23.0	4.0	0.2
1986	17.3	73.3	2.4	68.0	36.8	128.7	114.3	64.1	23.0	4.0	0.2
1987	16.6	70.8	2.2	66.7	35.8	126.4	111.3	63.9	22.6	4.2	0.2
1988	16.7	72.2	2.2	68.4	36.2	129.8	116.0	65.8	23.8	4.4	0.2
1989	16.6	71.9	2.4	70.9	36.9	130.9	115.9	66.6	23.9	4.4	0.2
1990	17.1	71.6	2.4	74.7	38.5	132.7	114.7	66.0	25.6	4.1	0.2
1991	17.0	71.6	2.6	75.9	38.3	133.1	117.0	66.4	25.7	4.3	0.2
1992	16.4	70.1	2.3	75.9	38.0	129.7	114.6	66.9	24.8	4.2	0.2
1993	16.1	69.0	2.4	75.8	38.2	127.0	112.1	68.3	25.0	4.6	0.2
1994	15.7	67.6	2.3	74.4	37.8	122.4	110.1	69.9	25.6	4.9	0.1
1995	14.7	65.4	2.0	70.0	36.0	117.8	108.4	69.8	26.0	4.7	0.2
1996	15.0	64.9	2.2	67.0	35.4	118.2	107.2	71.3	26.7	5.1	0.2
1997	15.2	65.6	1.8	66.1	35.4	120.7	110.0	73.2	27.0	5.0	0.3
1998	15.3	66.6	1.9	65.2	35.4	124.4	111.2	74.3	28.6	4.7	0.2
1999	15.3	67.6	1.6	62.6	33.9	126.0	114.4	77.7	29.5	5.2	0.2
2000	15.2	67.4	1.6	62.0	32.8	132.5	111.3	75.4	28.6	5.2	0.2
2001	14.6	64.7	1.3	56.7	29.9	129.2	107.0	73.1	27.9	5.4	0.3

<sup>1</sup>Rate per 1,000 population

<sup>1</sup>Rate per 1,000 women aged 15-44

<sup>2</sup>Numerator = all live births to mothers under 15 years of age; denominator = female population 10-14 years of age.

<sup>3</sup>Rate per 1,000 women in age group

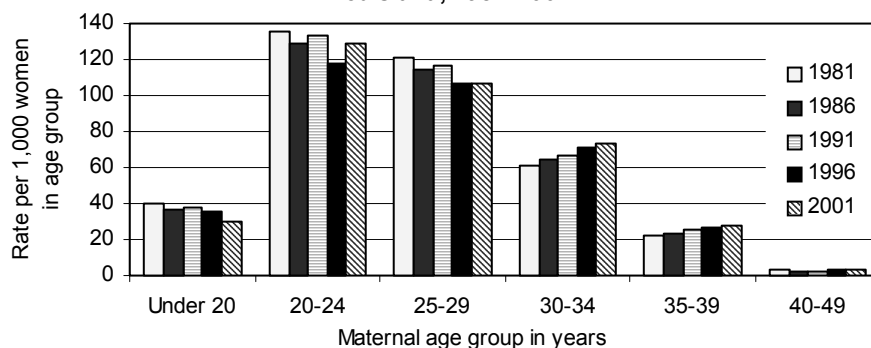
<sup>4</sup>Numerator = all live births to mothers 45 and older; denominator = female population 45-49 years of age.

## MATERNAL PROFILE

## Age of Mother

Louisiana's youngest and oldest mothers were 12 and 52 years old, respectively, when they gave birth in 2001. Overall birth and fertility rates have declined since the 1980s, driven by a decrease in birth rates among women under 30 years. Increases in birth rates among women age 30-39 suggest a shift toward more women giving birth in the latter part of their childbearing years (*Figure B4, Table B2, and Table B3*). This shift is comparable to national trends in age-specific birth rates in the past decade.

**Figure B4. Age-Specific Birth Rates  
Louisiana, 1981-2001**



**Table B3.  
First Birth Rates<sup>†</sup> by Maternal Age  
Louisiana and United States, 1991-2001**

Year	Maternal Age Group							15-44	15-44
	Under 15 <sup>‡</sup>	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	Louisiana	United States
1991	2.5	55.4	56.6	35.7	13.2	3.7	0.5	27.4	28.3
1992	2.2	55.0	55.0	35.4	13.5	3.9	0.5	27.1	27.8
1993	2.3	56.0	55.3	34.8	14.2	4.0	0.6	27.2	27.5
1994	2.3	55.0	54.6	35.3	15.1	4.2	0.7	27.2	27.5
1995	1.9	53.3	52.6	36.6	15.8	4.4	0.7	27.0	27.3
1996	2.1	50.8	52.0	36.9	16.9	4.4	0.8	26.7	26.8
1997	1.8	50.4	51.5	36.8	17.2	4.9	0.8	26.7	26.5
1998	1.8	50.0	51.9	35.8	17.5	5.3	0.7	26.8	26.4
1999	1.6	47.7	52.2	37.5	18.4	5.3	0.9	27.0	26.6
2000	1.6	47.4	53.9	31.9	18.6	6.1	0.9	26.5	26.5
2001	1.3	43.7	53.8	32.7	17.2	5.0	0.9	25.3	26.0

<sup>‡</sup>First birth per 1,000 women in specified age group

<sup>†</sup>Numerator = all live births to mothers under 15 years of age; denominator = female population 10-14 years of age.

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics,  
National Center for Health Statistics

## Birth Order

The **first-birth rate** measures the number of first births to mothers in a particular age group. The rate is calculated by dividing the number of first births to mothers in a particular age group by the total female population in that age group, then multiplying the quotient by 1,000. It is expressed as the number of first births per 1,000

women in that age group. First-birth rates are helpful in assessing changes over time in the age at which women begin bearing children.

Since 1991, Louisiana's first-birth rate dropped 7.7%, from 27.4 to 25.3 first births per 1,000 women aged 15-44.

During the same time period, the United States' rate dropped 8.1%, from 28.3 to

26.0 in 2001. Since 1991, changes in first-birth rate trends by the age of the mother have become apparent. Rates for teenage women 15-19 have dropped steadily, while rates for women 30-39 have risen steadily (*Table B3, on previous page*).

Counts of 2001 live births by birth order are given in *Table B4*.

**Table B4.**  
**Number of Live Births by Birth Order, Age and Race of Mother**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Birth Order	Race	Total	Maternal Age Group									Percent of Live Births	Mean Age of Mother	Median Age of Mother
			Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & Over	Unk.			
ALL	ALL***	65193	220	10297	21242	16132	11365	4917	968	46	6	100.0	25.6	24.2
	WHITE	36740	35	4204	10454	10159	7916	3315	618	35	****	56.4	26.7	25.8
	BLACK	26988	182	5949	10438	5519	3088	1480	319	11	****	41.4	24.1	22.3
1	ALL	25660	217	7936	8839	4931	2671	891	165	7	****	39.4	23.1	21.6
	WHITE	15225	34	3466	5151	3721	2056	678	114	****	****	23.4	24.3	22.9
	BLACK	9786	180	4346	3527	992	504	187	45	****	****	15.0	21.0	19.7
2	ALL	21225	****	1906	7376	5695	4386	1595	255	8	****	32.6	26.3	25.6
	WHITE	12770	****	637	3708	3854	3272	1119	172	6	****	19.6	27.4	26.9
	BLACK	7968	****	1250	3541	1688	976	433	76	****	0	12.2	24.5	22.8
3	ALL	11306	0	387	3507	3360	2543	1270	227	11	****	17.3	27.7	26.8
	WHITE	5968	0	85	1268	1845	1731	878	152	8	****	9.2	29.1	28.7
	BLACK	5128	0	301	2191	1458	741	365	69	****	0	7.9	25.9	24.6
4	ALL	4265	0	52	1091	1341	1015	613	145	8	0	6.5	28.8	27.8
	WHITE	1874	0	9	253	542	601	373	89	7	0	2.9	30.7	30.6
	BLACK	2310	0	43	826	780	386	224	50	****	0	3.5	27.2	25.7
5	ALL	1514	0	6	301	492	384	254	73	****	0	2.3	29.7	28.8
	WHITE	552	0	****	52	142	156	153	44	****	0	0.8	32.0	31.8
	BLACK	938	0	5	247	345	220	94	27	0	0	1.4	28.3	26.9
6	ALL	632	0	0	90	191	173	133	44	****	0	1.0	30.8	29.9
	WHITE	187	0	0	13	33	54	64	22	****	0	0.3	33.3	33.6
	BLACK	436	0	0	77	157	118	66	18	0	0	0.7	29.6	28.7
7	ALL	269	0	0	21	76	84	68	20	0	0	0.4	32.0	31.8
	WHITE	63	0	0	****	12	22	20	8	0	0	0.1	34.0	33.7
	BLACK	202	0	0	20	63	59	48	12	0	0	0.3	31.3	31.4
8	ALL	136	0	0	0	26	57	35	17	****	0	0.2	33.5	32.7
	WHITE	31	0	0	0	****	11	10	8	0	0	0.0	35.7	36.3
	BLACK	104	0	0	0	24	45	25	9	****	0	0.2	32.9	32.0

Table B4 continues on the next page.



**Table B4 (continued).**  
**Number of Live Births by Birth Order and Age and Race of Mother**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Birth Order	Race	Total	Maternal Age Group									Percent of Live Births	Mean Age of Mother	Median Age of Mother
			Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & Over	Unk.			
9	ALL <sup>+++</sup>	60	0	0	0	10	21	19	9	****	0	0.1	34.5	33.9
	WHITE	14	0	0	0	****	****	6	****	****	0	0.0	37.4	37.3
	BLACK	46	0	0	0	8	20	13	5	0	0	0.1	33.6	33.4
10	ALL	30	0	0	****	****	9	11	6	0	0	0.0	35.0	35.3
	WHITE	5	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	0	0	0.0	37.6	35.8
	BLACK	25	0	0	****	****	8	8	5	0	0	0.0	34.5	34.9
11	ALL	15	0	0	0	****	****	9	****	****	0	0.0	36.3	36.4
	WHITE	****	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	0	0.0	39.0	37.0
	BLACK	12	0	0	0	****	****	7	****	0	0	0.0	35.7	36.4
12	ALL	12	0	0	0	****	6	****	0	0	0	0.0	33.1	32.8
	WHITE	****	0	0	0	****	0	****	0	0	0	0.0	31.0	26.0
	BLACK	10	0	0	0	****	6	****	0	0	0	0.0	33.5	32.8
13	ALL	6	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	0	0.0	39.7	38.7
	WHITE	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0.0	45.0	45.0
	BLACK	5	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	0	0	0.0	38.6	38.5
14	ALL	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0.0	40.0	40.0
	WHITE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	BLACK	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0.0	40.0	40.0
15	ALL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	WHITE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	BLACK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
16	ALL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	WHITE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	BLACK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
UNK	ALL	62	0	10	15	5	13	11	****	****	****	0.1	29.1	29.4
	WHITE	45	0	6	8	5	11	8	****	****	****	0.1	30.2	29.8
	BLACK	17	0	****	7	0	****	****	0	****	0	0.0	26.5	22.8

<sup>+++</sup>All races" contains white, black and other.

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

## Race of Mother

Of the 65,193 births to Louisiana residents, 36,740 (56.4%) were to white mothers, 26,988 (41.4%) to black mothers, and 1,465 (2.2%) to mothers of other races (*Table B5*).

The overall fertility rate of 64.7 varied between races, from 38.0 to 76.3 births per 1,000 women 15 through 44 years. Black women aged 15 through 44 years had a

higher fertility rate (76.3 births per 1,000 women) than white women (59.8 per 1,000 women). This racial disparity resulted primarily from the rate at which births occurred to women under the age of 25, where age-specific birth rates for black mothers were substantially higher than those for white mothers or mothers of other races.

Age-specific birth rates for all race groups peaked in the mothers' twenties (*Figure B5, Table B6*). After the age of 25, age-specific birth rates for whites and blacks were more comparable, though white women tend to have higher age-specific birth rates for women aged 25-39.

**Table B5.**  
**Number of Live Births by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana 2001**

Race	Maternal Age Group									
	Under 15	15-19	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	All ages
All Races	220	10297	10517	21242	16132	11365	4917	968	46	65193
White	35	4204	4239	10454	10159	7915	3315	618	35	36740
Black	182	5949	6131	10438	5519	3088	1480	319	11	26988
Other	****	144	147	349	454	361	122	31	0	1464

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

**Table B6.**  
**Crude Birth Rates<sup>+</sup>, Fertility Rates<sup>1</sup>, and Age-Specific Birth Rates<sup>2</sup> by Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Race	Crude Rates <sup>+</sup>	Fertility Rates <sup>1</sup>	Age-Specific Birth Rates <sup>2</sup> by Maternal Age Group								
			Under 15 <sup>3</sup>	15-19	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49 <sup>4</sup>
All Races	14.6	64.7	1.3	56.7	29.9	129.2	107.0	73.1	27.9	5.4	0.3
White	12.9	59.8	0.4	40.5	21.3	110.3	110.5	81.7	29.5	5.4	0.3
Black	18.6	76.3	2.7	84.1	44.1	166.9	105.5	58.7	25.5	5.6	0.2
Other	9.1	38.0	--	20.5	10.8	49.6	69.2	60.4	20.1	5.3	0.0

<sup>+</sup> Rate per 1,000 population.

<sup>1</sup> Rate per 1,000 women aged 15-44.

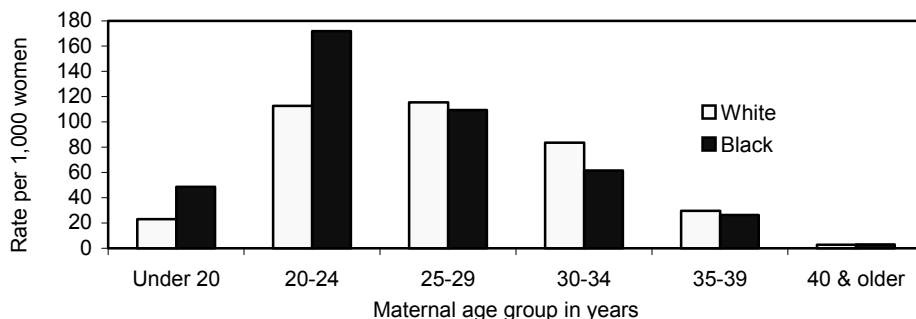
<sup>2</sup> Rate per 1,000 women in corresponding age group.

<sup>3</sup> Numerator = all live births to mothers under 15 years of age; denominator = female population 10-14 years of age.

<sup>4</sup> Numerator = all live births to mothers 45-54; denominator = female population 45-49 years of age.

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

**Figure B5. Age-Specific Birth Rates by Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**



### Teen and Pre-Teen Births

A **teen birth** is defined as a birth to a woman aged 13 to 19 years of age.

A **pre-teen birth** is a birth to a woman younger than 13 years old.

Despite an overall decrease in teen and pre-teen birth rates over the last two decades, teenage and pre-teenage pregnancies continue to present challenges to health initiatives nationwide. Most pre-teen and teen births are unintended, and the educational attainment of mothers younger than 20 years of age is limited. In addition to the social repercussions, pre-teen and teen pregnancy and childbearing have important health consequences for the young mother as well as her baby: mothers under 20 years of age are less likely to receive timely prenatal care and pre-teens and teens are more likely to smoke during pregnancy than women over

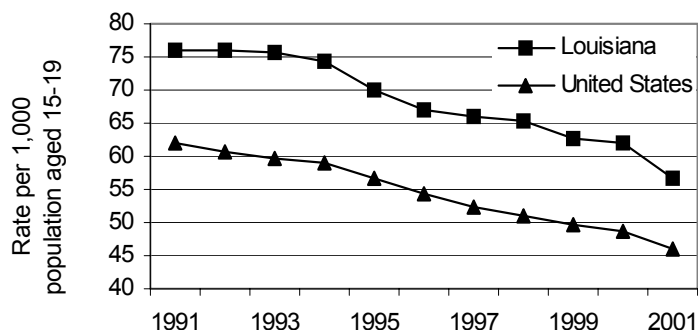
20 years of age. As a consequence of these and other factors, babies born to pre-teenage and teenage mothers are at greater risk of preterm birth and low birthweight.<sup>5</sup> Nationally, 79% of births to teens occur outside of marriage,<sup>6</sup> and 25% of teenage mothers go on to have more children within the next two years.<sup>7</sup> These factors, combined with the fact that pre-teenage and teenage mothers are less likely to finish high school, contribute to the high proportion of women living in poverty who first gave birth during adolescence.

The majority of pre-teen and teen mothers live in poverty during the years their children are growing up. More than 70 percent will receive welfare benefits, and 40 percent will be on welfare for five years or more during the decade after their first child. In February 1999, 49.7% of

women receiving cash assistance and 30.5% receiving food stamps in Louisiana had their first child before the age of 20.<sup>8</sup> During the fiscal years of 1997-1998, Louisiana spent over \$540 million on programs including the Family Independent Temporary Assistance Program (FITAP), Food Stamps, Women, Infant and Children Program WIC, Foster Care and Medicaid to support adolescent pregnancy.<sup>9</sup> In contrast, Louisiana spent about \$10.3 million on programs designed to prevent teenage and pre-teenage pregnancy during the same time period.<sup>10</sup>

There were 10,517 live births to Louisiana residents under the age of 20 years (*Table B5*) in the year 2001. As in the United States overall, birth rates in Louisiana for the 15-19 years age group declined during the 1990s and continued to fall in 2001 (*Figure B6, Table B7*).

**Figure B6. Teens Aged 15-19: Age-Specific Birth Rates Louisiana and United States, 1991-2001**

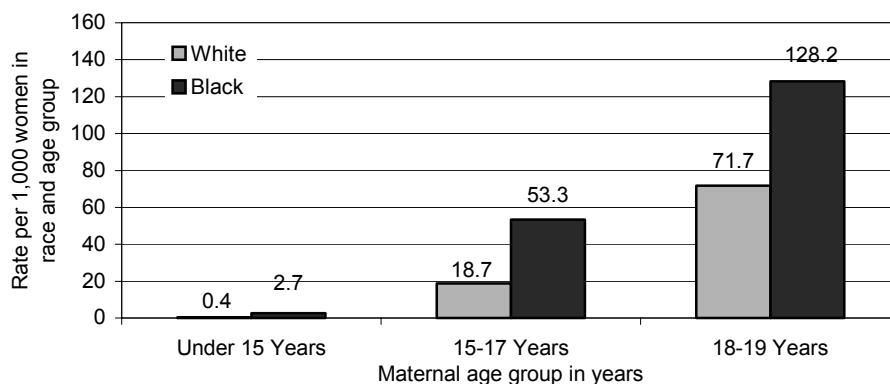


**Table B7. Teens and Pre-Teens: Age-specific birth rates<sup>1</sup> by Maternal Age Louisiana and United States, 1981-2001**

Year	Louisiana			U.S
	10-14	15-19	10-19	
1981	2.0	73.9	40.3	52.2
1985	2.2	72.4	38.8	51.0
1991	2.6	75.9	38.3	62.1
1992	2.3	75.9	38.0	60.7
1993	2.4	75.8	38.2	59.6
1994	2.3	74.4	37.8	58.9
1995	2.0	70.0	36.0	56.8
1996	2.2	67.0	35.4	54.4
1997	1.8	66.1	35.4	52.3
1998	1.9	65.2	35.4	51.1
1999	1.6	62.6	33.9	49.6
2000	1.6	62.0	32.8	47.7
2001	1.3	56.7	29.9	45.3

<sup>1</sup>Rate per 1,000 women in corresponding age group.  
Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics,  
National Center for Health Statistics

**Figure B7.**  
**Teens and Pre-Teens: Age Specific Birth Rates by Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**



The overall birth rate for women aged 15-19 was 56.7 births per 1,000 women (*Table B8*). This rate was 25.2 % higher than the 2001 national rate of 45.3 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19. The birth rate for black teenagers 15-19 years old in Louisiana was more than twice that of white teenagers in the same age group, at 84.1 versus 40.5 births per 1,000 women, respectively. There was a decrease in birth rate for black teenage women aged 15-19 years, by 9.1% from 2000's rate of 92.5 per 1,000 live births.

The ratio of black to white teenage births also decreased as age increased. Black teenagers under the age of 15 gave birth more than six times as frequently as white teenagers of the same age did, while black teenagers 15-17 years were three times more likely to give birth than white teenagers of the same age.

Relative to mothers of all ages, teenage and pre-teenage mothers were less likely to enter prenatal care within the first trimester of pregnancy. Of live births to women

under 20 years of age, 69.8 % received prenatal care in the first trimester, in contrast to 82.9% of live births to women of all ages (*Table B9*).

Teenagers and pre-teenagers were also more likely to give birth to low birthweight infants, with 12.5% of live births to women under 20 years of age being low birthweight versus 10.5% to mothers of all ages (*Table B10*).

**Table B8. Teens and Pre-Teens:**  
**Age-specific Birth Rates\* by Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Age Group	Maternal Race			
	White	Black	Other	All Races
Under 15	0.4	2.7	--	1.3
15-17	18.7	53.3	9.5	31.8
18-19	71.7	128.2	36.2	92.3
15-19	40.5	84.1	20.5	56.7
10-19	21.3	44.1	10.8	29.9

\*Rate per 1,000 women in race and age group.

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

**Table B9. Teens and Pre-Teens:**  
**Number and Percents of Live Births to Mothers**  
**Entering Prenatal Care in the First Trimester by Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Age	Maternal Race					
	White		Black		All Races***	
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*
Under 15	25	71.4	71	39.0	97	44.1
15	91	63.6	190	53.5	283	56.4
16	237	70.7	391	56.5	635	61.1
17	506	76.4	717	61.0	1236	66.4
18	984	78.7	1072	67.4	2090	72.2
19	1502	82.8	1455	68.1	2995	74.9
15-19	3320	79.0	3825	64.3	7239	70.3
10-19	3345	78.9	3896	63.5	7336	69.8
All ages	33093	90.1	19707	73.0	54037	83.2

\*Percent of live births entering prenatal care in first trimester in age group and race group

\*\*\*All Races includes white, black and other

**Table B10.**  
**Teens and Pre-Teens: Number and Percent of Live Births**  
**Under 2500 Grams by Maternal Race and Age**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Age	Maternal Race					
	White		Black		All Races <sup>***</sup>	
	Number	Percent <sup>+</sup>	Number	Percent <sup>+</sup>	Number	Percent <sup>+</sup>
Under 15	****	8.8	33	18.1	36	16.4
15	15	10.5	73	20.6	90	17.9
16	28	8.4	116	16.8	147	14.1
17	62	9.4	167	14.2	231	12.4
18	106	8.5	254	16.0	367	12.7
19	143	7.9	291	13.6	440	11.0
15-19	354	8.4	901	15.1	1275	12.4
10-19	357	8.4	934	15.2	1311	12.5
Total	2822	7.7	3880	14.4	6819	10.5

<sup>+</sup>Percent of live births <2500grams in age group and race group

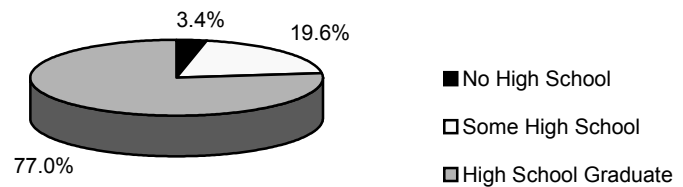
<sup>\*\*\*</sup>"All Races" includes white, black and other

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup> in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

## Education

Three-quarters (76.9%) of Louisiana's live births were born to mothers with at least a high school education. When examined by race, 68.5% of black infants, and 83.3% of white infants, were born to mothers with at least a high school level education (*Figure B8, Table B11*).

**Figure B8. Educational Status of Women Delivering Live Births, Louisiana, 2001**



**Table B11.**  
**Number and Percent of Live Births by Maternal Education and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Education Level	Counts				Percent <sup>+</sup> of Live Births			
	White	Black	Other	All <sup>***</sup>	White	Black	Other	All <sup>***</sup>
No high school	1193	905	104	2203	3.3	3.4	7.1	3.4
Some high school	4930	7577	246	12754	13.4	28.1	16.8	19.6
High school graduate	12856	10921	467	24245	35.0	40.5	31.9	37.2
Some college	7898	5203	255	13358	21.5	19.3	17.4	20.5
College graduate	9830	2356	391	12578	26.8	8.7	26.7	19.3
Known Total	36711	26964	1463	65138	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

<sup>+</sup>May not sum to 100% due to rounding error

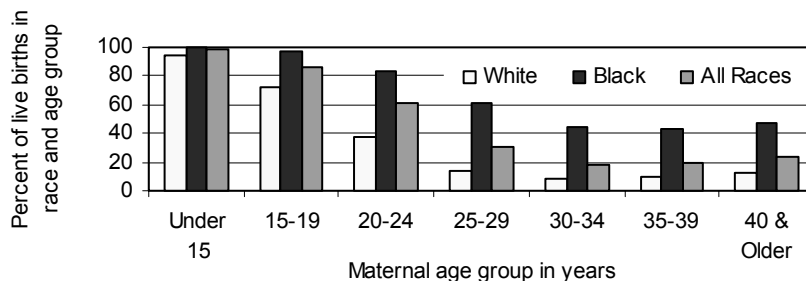
<sup>\*\*\*</sup>"All Races" includes white, black and other

### Marital Status

There were 30,186 live births to unmarried mothers in Louisiana in 2001. This represents 46.3% of all 2001 live births in Louisiana. Very young mothers were the most likely to be unmarried, with 99.1% of all mothers under the age of 15 being unmarried. Across all age groups, black mothers were almost three times more likely to be unmarried than white mothers were. The greatest racial disparity in marital status was observed in mothers aged 30-34, where blacks were more than five times as likely as whites to be unmarried (*Figure B9, Table B12*).

As in the United States overall, the annual percentage of live births that occur to unmarried mothers in Louisiana has nearly doubled in the last two decades (*Table B13*). An increase in the proportion of unmarried mothers has occurred in every age group, but is most

**Figure B9. Percent of Live Births to Unmarried Mothers by Maternal Age and Race  
Louisiana, 2001**



**Table B12.  
Percent<sup>+</sup> of Live Births to Unmarried Mothers by Maternal Age and Race  
Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Race	Maternal Age							
	Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	All Ages
All Races	75.0	86.7	60.4	30.5	18.5	19.1	23.8	46.3
White	94.3	72.5	38.1	14.6	8.6	9.1	12.9	26.2
Black	100.0	96.7	83.3	61.2	44.4	42.4	46.7	74.7
Other	--	84.7	46.0	13.7	13.6	--	--	28.0

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

<sup>+</sup>Percent of live births in the specified maternal age group.

apparent among women aged 20-29 years, where the percentage of live births to unmarried women

has more than doubled in the last 20 years.

**Table B13.  
Percent<sup>+</sup> of Live Births to Unmarried Mothers by Maternal Age  
Louisiana and the United States, 1981-2001**

Year	Louisiana: Maternal Age							United States: Maternal Age						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	All Ages	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	All Ages
1981	51.6	23.1	12.5	10.4	13.5	16.1	23.6	49.9	20.4	9.7	7.8	9.8	12.7	18.9
1986	65.3	33.6	17.2	14.6	15.9	18.2	30.2	61.5	28.7	13.8	10.4	11.7	14.8	23.4
1991	75.3	45.2	23.8	18.9	20.3	20.6	38.4	69.1	39.3	19.2	14.0	14.6	17.4	29.5
1996	83.1	53.7	26.4	19.8	20.8	25.6	43.5	76.3	45.4	21.9	14.7	15.6	18.4	32.4
2001	86.9	60.5	30.5	18.5	19.1	24.0	46.3	79.2	50.4	24.4	14.3	14.4	17.1	33.5

<sup>+</sup>Percent of live births in the specified maternal age group

Trend data from the last 20 years show that the age distribution of unmarried women giving birth has shifted upward. In 1981, women under 20 years accounted for 42.0% of live births to unmarried mothers. In the year 2001 they accounted for 30.3% of live births to unmarried women (Figure B10). Conversely, women aged 20 to 24 years accounted for 58.0% of live births to unmarried mothers in 1981 and 69.7% of live births to unmarried mothers in 2001.

### Prenatal Care

Despite the importance of early prenatal care, approximately one of every six babies born in Louisiana in 2001 was born to a woman who received no care in the first trimester of pregnancy.

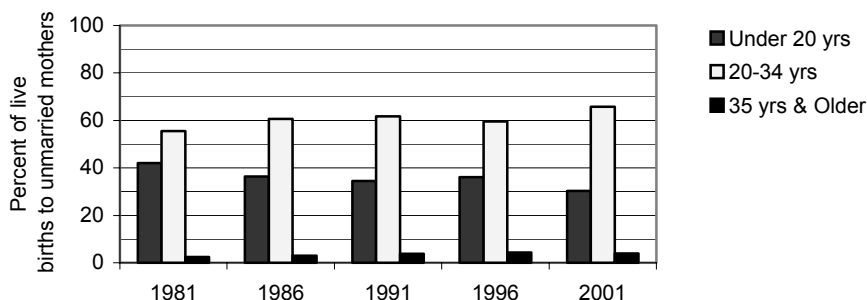
In Louisiana, adequacy of prenatal care is measured by a **modified Kessner index**. This

index defines prenatal care as adequate if the first prenatal visit occurred in the first trimester of pregnancy, and if the total number of visits was appropriate to the gestational age of the baby at birth. However, because these measures assess neither the quality nor the content of prenatal care, they must be recognized only as estimates of the actual adequacy of the care received.

Of the 64,139 Louisiana residents who had one or more live births in

2001, 77.8% received adequate prenatal care (Table B14). In both Louisiana and the United States, the percentage of live births to mothers entering prenatal care in the first trimester has increased steadily since the early 1990s (Figure B11, Table B15, on the following page). In the year 2001 the percentage of live births entering prenatal care in the first trimester in Louisiana (83.2%) was close to the national percentage (83.4%) (Table B15).

**Figure B10. Percentage of Live Births to Unmarried Women by Maternal Age, Louisiana, 1981- 2001**



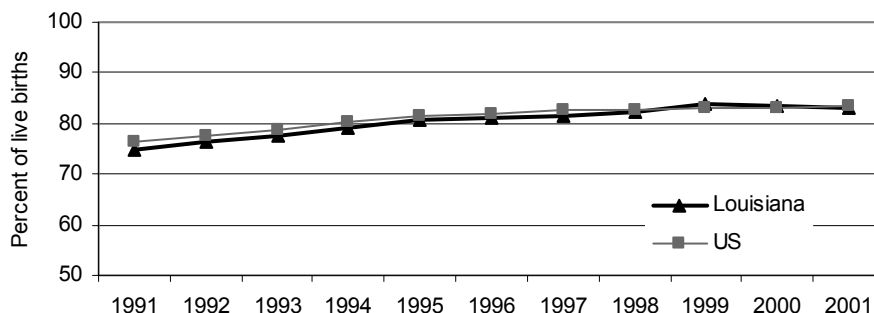
**Table B14.**  
**Percent of Women Delivering Live Births and Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care<sup>1</sup> by Maternal Age and Race Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Race	Maternal Age						
	All Ages	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older
All Races <sup>***</sup>	77.77	63.11	73.80	83.38	87.57	85.44	79.15
White	85.74	72.67	82.04	88.92	91.87	90.36	85.02
Black	66.86	56.60	65.62	73.16	76.75	74.29	67.47

<sup>1</sup>Adequate Prenatal Care as defined by a modified Kessner index in the Technical Notes section of this report. Women with multiple births counted once. 64,139 had one or more live births in 2001.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>All Races includes white, black, and other.

**Figure B11. Percents of Live Births to Women Entering Prenatal Care in the First Trimester of Pregnancy Louisiana and United States, 1991-2001**



**Table B15.  
Percents of Live Births to Women Entering Prenatal Care in the First Trimester of Pregnancy Louisiana and the United States, 1981-2001**

Year	Louisiana	United States
1981	77.8	76.3
1986	78.6	75.9
1991	75.0	76.2
1992	76.3	77.7
1993	77.4	78.9
1994	79.2	80.2
1995	80.7	81.3
1996	81.1	81.9
1997	81.3	82.5
1998	82.3	82.8
1999	83.9	83.2
2000	83.3	83.2
2001	83.2	83.4

Sources: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics  
National Center for Health Statistics

Racial differences with regard to the timeliness of entry into prenatal care were observed in both Louisiana and the United States, but the racial differences were more pronounced in Louisiana than in the nation. In both Louisiana and the United States, approximately three-quarters (73.4% and 74.5%, respectively) of live births among blacks entered prenatal care in the first trimester.

Among whites, however, 90.1% of Louisiana live births entered prenatal care in the first trimester, versus 85.0% nationally. (Table B16). In Louisiana, blacks were less likely than whites to enter into prenatal care in the first trimester (Figure B12, Table B17). Within all race groups, teens were less likely than women aged 20 and older to

initiate prenatal care in the first trimester (Figure B13).

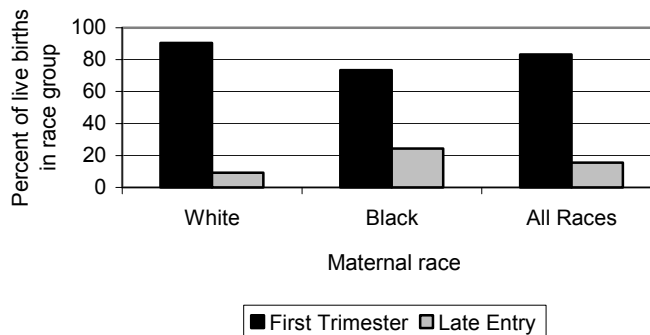


**Table B16.**  
**Percent of Live Births to Women**  
**Entering Prenatal Care in the 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Trimester of Pregnancy**  
**by Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana and United States, 2001**

Maternal Race	Louisiana	United States
All Races <sup>***</sup>	83.2	83.4%
White	90.4	85.2%
Black	73.4	74.5%

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>All Races<sup>\*\*\*</sup> includes white, black and other  
 Sources: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics  
 National Center for Health Statistics

**Figure B12. Percent of Live Births by**  
**Initiation of Prenatal Care and Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**



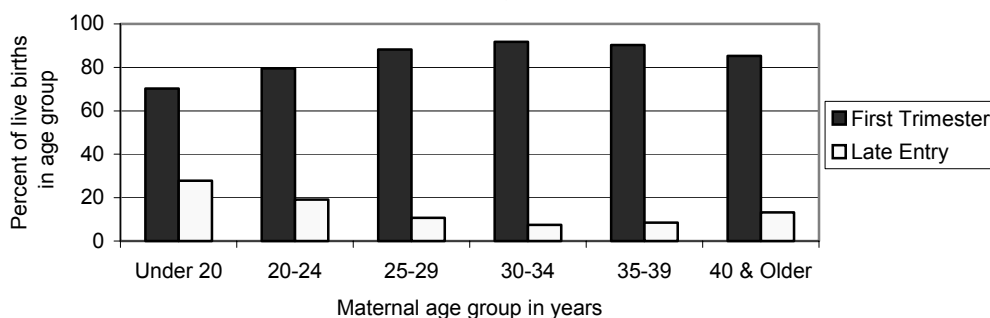
**Table B17.**  
**Percents<sup>+</sup> of Live Births by Initiation of Prenatal Care, Maternal Age, and Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Age Group	Trimester of Prenatal Care Initiation											
	No Care			First Trimester			Second Trimester			Third Trimester		
	All Races <sup>***</sup>	White	Black	All Races <sup>***</sup>	White	Black	All Races <sup>***</sup>	White	Black	All Races <sup>***</sup>	White	Black
Under 20	1.9	0.8	2.8	70.2	79.4	64.0	23.9	17.2	28.5	3.9	2.6	4.8
20-24	1.3	0.6	2.0	79.6	87.0	72.2	16.0	10.6	21.4	3.1	1.8	4.4
25-29	1.0	0.4	2.3	88.3	93.1	79.3	9.1	5.6	15.6	1.6	0.9	2.8
30-34	0.8	0.2	2.3	91.7	95.4	82.3	6.4	3.7	13.1	1.1	0.6	2.3
35-39	1.2	0.5	2.9	90.3	94.7	80.3	7.1	4.0	14.0	1.5	0.8	2.8
40 & Older	1.5	0.6	3.4	85.2	90.8	73.4	11.6	7.9	19.6	1.7	0.6	3.7
All Ages	1.2	0.5	2.3	83.2	90.4	73.4	13.2	7.9	20.5	2.3	1.3	3.8

<sup>+</sup>Percent of live births in specified maternal age and race group

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>All Races<sup>\*\*\*</sup> includes white, black and other.

**Figure B13. Percent of Live Births by**  
**Initiation of Prenatal Care and Maternal Age**  
**Louisiana, 2001**



### Medical Risk Factors for Complications of Pregnancy

The birth attendant records medical risk factors on the birth certificate by checking any of 16 listed risk factors, or by specifying "other" or "none". Multiple risk factors can be recorded on a birth certificate.

Pregnancy-associated hypertension was the most frequently reported risk factor for complications of pregnancy among Louisiana residents giving birth, at a rate of 34.2 per 1,000 mothers who had one or more live births during the calendar year. Black mothers experienced pregnancy-associated hypertension at a higher rate than white mothers did. The rate among black mothers was 35.3 occurrences per 1,000 black mothers, versus the rate of 33.8 occurrences per 1,000 white mothers.

The second most frequently reported medical risk factor for

complications of pregnancy was anemia, at a rate of 25.3 occurrences per 1,000 mothers who had one or more live births during the calendar year. Black mothers experienced anemia at a rate of 35.5 occurrences per 1,000 black mothers, which was almost twice as high as the rate of 18.3 occurrences per 1,000 white mothers.

The third most frequently reported medical risk factor for complications of pregnancy was diabetes, at a rate of 15.2 occurrences per 1,000 mothers who had one or more live births during the calendar year. This includes juvenile onset, adult onset, and gestational diabetes during pregnancy. White mothers experienced diabetes at a slightly lower rate (15.1 occurrences per 1,000 white mothers) than black mothers (15.3 occurrences per 1,000 black mothers).

Medical risk factors reported on the birth certificate differed somewhat by age, with very young mothers and older mothers reporting the highest rates of medical risks.

Among teenage mothers the most frequently reported medical risk factors were: pregnancy-associated hypertension, with 36.9 occurrences per 1,000 mothers; anemia at a rate of 29.4 occurrences per 1,000 mothers and; eclampsia with 10.2 occurrences per 1,000 mothers.

Among mothers 35 years and older, the most frequently reported medical risk factors were: pregnancy-associated hypertension, with 40.3 occurrences per 1,000 mothers, diabetes, at a rate of 32.3 occurrences per 1,000 mothers; and chronic hypertension, with 23.9 occurrences per 1,000 mothers year (*Table B18 and Table B19*).

**Table B18.**  
**Rates<sup>+</sup> of Selected Medical Risk Factors for Complications of Pregnancy by Maternal Race and Age**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Risk Factor	All Ages			All Races <sup>+++</sup>		Risk Factor	All Ages			All Races <sup>+++</sup>	
	All Races <sup>+++</sup>	White	Black	< 20	35 & Older		All Races <sup>+++</sup>	White	Black	< 20	35 & Older
Hypertension, pregnancy associated	34.2	33.8	35.3	36.9	40.3	Previous infant >=4000 Grams	4.4	6.2	2.0	0.6	9.2
Anemia (HCT <30 \ HGB <10)	25.3	18.3	35.5	29.4	18.7	Genital Herpes	3.9	4.2	3.5	2.9	4.3
Diabetes	15.2	15.1	15.3	5.4	32.3	Uterine bleeding	3.5	4.2	2.4	2.7	4.1
Hypertension, chronic	8.4	5.6	12.4	4.1	23.9	Incompetent cervix	1.9	1.7	2.2	--	3.8
Hydramnios/Oligohydramnios	7.4	6.3	8.9	7.7	7.1	Cardiac disease	1.6	1.7	1.5	--	--
Eclampsia	6.4	2.8	11.6	10.2	5.4	Acute or chronic lung disease	0.7	0.7	--	--	--
Previous preterm infant or small for gestational age	6.4	5.7	7.4	3.1	8.1	Renal Disease	0.5	--	--	--	--
Rh sensitization	6.0	8.8	2.3	6.5	5.0	Hemoglobinopathy	--	--	--	--	--

<sup>+</sup>Rate per 1000 mothers who had one or more live births during the calendar year

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

<sup>+++</sup>All Races includes white, black and other

**Table B19.**  
**Counts<sup>1</sup> of Medical Risk Factors for Complications of Pregnancy by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Medical Risk Factor	Race	Total	Maternal Age Group													
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 +	Unk.
No medical risk factor noted	All	49324	145	339	764	1376	2222	3107	7808	16190	12330	8637	3526	653	29	6
	White	28951	28	110	266	528	1010	1449	3363	8352	8033	6202	2510	437	22	****
	Black	19221	115	226	489	835	1172	1622	4344	7571	3928	2140	921	193	7	****
	Other	1152	****	****	9	13	40	36	101	267	369	295	95	23	0	0
Anemia (HCT<30/HGB <10)	All	1624	5	20	37	54	81	109	301	621	353	236	92	16	0	0
	White	660	0	****	10	17	29	46	105	218	157	130	41	9	0	0
	Black	942	5	17	26	36	52	63	194	396	189	100	51	7	0	0
	Other	22	0	0	****	****	0	0	****	7	7	6	0	0	0	0
Cardiac disease	All	101	****	****	0	****	****	****	7	28	30	19	16	0	0	0
	White	60	0	0	0	****	****	****	****	13	17	13	13	0	0	0
	Black	39	****	****	0	0	****	0	****	15	12	6	****	0	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	0	0	0
Acute or chronic lung disease	All	47	0	0	0	****	****	****	8	10	18	7	****	****	0	0
	White	27	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	7	12	5	****	0	0	0
	Black	19	0	0	0	****	****	****	7	****	5	****	****	****	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0
Diabetes	All	977	****	****	****	9	24	19	55	190	277	267	144	42	****	0
	White	545	0	0	****	****	12	8	23	93	162	164	83	19	****	0
	Black	407	****	****	****	7	11	11	31	95	104	96	60	20	0	0
	Other	25	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	11	7	****	****	0	0
Genital herpes	All	247	0	****	5	****	5	16	30	81	69	42	23	****	0	0
	White	152	0	0	****	****	****	9	15	43	43	30	19	****	0	0
	Black	93	0	0	****	****	****	7	14	38	25	12	****	0	0	0
	Other	****	0	****	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	0	0	0	0	0
Hydramnios/Oligohydramnios	All	476	****	5	13	14	20	26	78	182	100	73	29	11	****	0
	White	229	0	0	5	****	10	12	31	87	55	40	12	****	****	0
	Black	235	****	5	8	10	8	14	45	91	43	31	16	7	0	0
	Other	12	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	****	****	****	****	0	0
Hemoglobinopathy	All	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
	White	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	0	0	0	0	0
	Black	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hypertension, chronic	All	536	0	0	****	6	17	16	43	97	119	139	102	34	****	0
	White	203	0	0	****	0	****	****	5	32	52	62	34	16	****	0
	Black	329	0	0	****	6	15	14	38	64	67	76	66	18	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	0	0	0
Hypertension, pregnancy associated	All	2194	11	23	43	70	109	128	373	694	535	348	178	53	****	0
	White	1220	0	9	11	20	37	72	149	369	340	234	94	32	****	0
	Black	938	10	14	32	49	69	55	219	312	186	111	80	20	0	0
	Other	36	****	0	0	****	****	****	5	13	9	****	****	****	0	0
Eclampsia	All	411	5	13	6	28	27	27	101	129	82	63	27	****	0	0
	White	102	0	****	0	****	7	****	12	27	29	26	7	****	0	0
	Black	308	5	12	6	26	20	25	89	102	53	36	20	****	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0
Incompetent cervix	All	122	0	0	0	0	****	****	5	36	25	34	21	****	0	0
	White	63	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	15	13	21	10	****	0	0
	Black	59	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	21	12	13	11	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table B19 continues on the next page.

**Table B19 (continued).**  
**Counts<sup>1</sup> of Medical Risk Factors for Complications of Pregnancy by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Medical Risk Factor	Race	Total	Maternal Age Group														Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 +		
Previous infant >= 4000 grams	All	281	0	0	0	****	****	****	6	58	92	72	44	7	****	0	
	White	224	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	38	75	59	39	7	****	0	
	Black	54	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	18	17	13	****	0	0	0	
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	****	0	0	0	
Previous preterm or small for gestational age infant	All	408	0	0	****	****	9	17	32	143	115	71	42	5	0	0	
	White	205	0	0	0	****	****	5	9	52	69	48	26	****	0	0	
	Black	197	0	0	****	****	6	12	23	88	44	22	16	****	0	0	
	Other	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	0	0	0	0	
Renal Disease	All	30	0	0	****	****	****	****	5	8	8	8	****	0	0	0	
	White	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	7	6	0	0	0	0	
	Black	12	0	0	****	****	****	****	5	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Rh Sensitization	All	384	****	****	5	9	18	32	66	127	94	66	23	5	****	0	
	White	318	****	****	5	6	15	27	54	98	77	61	21	5	****	0	
	Black	61	****	****	0	****	****	****	11	27	16	****	****	0	0	0	
	Other	5	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0	
Uterine bleeding	All	223	0	****	****	****	8	12	28	64	58	49	18	6	0	0	
	White	153	0	0	****	0	5	6	12	42	43	39	14	****	0	0	
	Black	64	0	****	****	****	****	6	16	20	12	9	****	****	0	0	
	Other	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	0	0	0	0	
Other	All	9265	62	118	188	315	421	556	1598	3032	2113	1478	796	178	8	0	
	White	4122	5	19	42	87	139	210	497	1131	1092	865	436	91	5	0	
	Black	4940	57	99	144	219	272	337	1071	1850	966	568	341	84	****	0	
	Other	203	0	0	****	9	10	9	30	51	55	45	19	****	0	0	
Unknown medical risk factor	All	70	0	0	****	****	****	8	13	16	8	15	13	****	****	0	
	White	48	0	0	0	****	****	****	6	8	7	13	10	****	0	0	
	Black	21	0	0	****	****	0	5	7	7	****	****	****	0	****	0	
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	

<sup>1</sup>This is a duplicated count. More than one medical risk factor was noted on some birth certificates.  
64,139 women had one or more live births during the calendar year.

\*\*\*\*in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

## Tobacco and Alcohol Use during Pregnancy

Usage of tobacco and alcohol during pregnancy, as reported by the mother at the time of birth, is recorded on the birth certificate. Because this information depends on

the mother's recall, it is subject to inaccuracy. In 2001, 10.1% of mothers who provided information reported using tobacco during pregnancy. Among

whites, 13.7% reported using tobacco, and 0.3% reported using alcohol. Among blacks, tobacco and alcohol use were reported to be 5.5% and 0.6%, respectively.

**Table B20.**  
**Use of Tobacco and Alcohol during Pregnancy by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Substance Usage	Race	Total	Maternal Age													
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 +	Unk.
No tobacco use	All	57550	215	473	935	1665	2523	3424	9020	18454	14343	10276	4366	832	40	****
	White	31108	31	122	262	519	971	1368	3242	8404	8805	7134	2929	531	30	****
	Black	25087	182	348	663	1127	1506	2015	5659	9738	5104	2798	1322	272	10	****
	Other	1355	****	****	10	19	46	41	119	312	434	344	115	29	0	0
Tobacco use	All	6499	****	25	96	184	341	525	1171	2487	1462	827	429	114	****	****
	White	4954	****	19	72	139	267	428	925	1925	1144	587	298	67	****	****
	Black	1454	0	5	22	41	65	91	224	531	301	226	126	46	0	0
	Other	91	****	****	****	****	9	6	22	31	17	14	5	****	0	0
Unknown tobacco use	All	90	0	0	0	****	6	8	16	19	18	19	14	****	****	0
	White	64	0	0	0	****	5	5	11	11	13	15	11	****	0	0
	Black	25	0	0	0	****	****	****	5	7	5	****	****	0	****	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	0
No alcohol use	All	63798	219	497	1031	1847	2864	3945	10184	20870	15760	11033	4752	934	41	5
	White	35963	34	141	334	656	1237	1795	4163	10302	9932	7699	3206	593	31	****
	Black	26394	182	352	685	1168	1572	2103	5880	10227	5378	2978	1426	311	10	****
	Other	1441	****	****	12	23	55	47	141	341	450	356	120	30	0	0
Alcohol use	All	253	0	****	0	****	****	6	11	63	49	72	43	12	****	****
	White	102	0	0	0	****	****	****	6	25	19	23	21	5	****	****
	Black	146	0	****	0	****	0	****	5	36	29	47	22	7	0	0
	Other	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
Unknown alcohol use	All	88	0	0	0	****	5	6	12	27	14	17	14	****	****	0
	White	61	0	0	0	****	5	****	9	13	11	14	11	****	0	0
	Black	26	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	13	****	****	****	0	****	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

Note: This table is based on a count of women giving birth rather than the total number of live births. 64,139 women had one or more live births during 2001.

## NEWBORN PROFILE

## Sex

Louisiana's *male/female birth ratio* was 1.059, which means that 1,059 males were born for every 1,000 females. By race, the male/female ratios were 1.057 for whites, 1.060 for blacks, and 1.084 for other races (*Table B21*).

## Birthweight

A *low birthweight* infant is defined as an infant weighing less than 2500 grams (5 pounds, 8 ounces) at birth.

Mortality and morbidity are increased among infants born at term whose birth weights are at or below the third percentile for their gestational age.<sup>11</sup> Preterm infants who have a lower than normal birth weight are at higher risk of experiencing neurological problems, respiratory and gastrointestinal disorders, developmental problems and slowed growth.<sup>12</sup>

Low birthweight has been linked to several preventable factors, including lack of prenatal care, maternal smoking,

**Table B21.**  
**Counts of Live Births by**  
**Infant Sex and Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Infant Sex	Maternal Race			
	White	Black	Other	Total
Male	18881	13890	762	33533
Female	17859	13098	703	31660
Ratio (M:F)	1.057	1.060	1.084	1.059

use of alcohol and other drugs, and pregnancy before the age of 18 years. Other risk factors for low birthweight include low socioeconomic level, low maternal weight gain, low pregnancy weight, first birth status, female sex, short maternal stature, prior low birthweight births, maternal illnesses, fetal infections, and a variety of metabolic and genetic disorders. Low birthweight infants who survive are more likely than normal weight infants to have brain damage, lung and liver disease, developmental problems, subnormal growth, and other adverse health conditions. The effects of low birthweight follow these infants

throughout life, increasing their likelihood of physical, intellectual and behavioral difficulties.<sup>13</sup> Over time, higher proportions of low birthweight infants are enrolled in special education classes relative to their normal birthweight counterparts.<sup>14</sup>

Of the total 65,193 births to Louisiana residents in 2001, ten birth certificates did not include a recorded weight. Three other records listed the birthweight as below 40 grams; given the unfeasibility, these were reassigned to unknown weight, yielding a total of 6,819 infants weighing less than 2500 grams. The babies weighing between 40 and 2500 grams accounted for 10.5% of total live births with known birthweight. In the United States 7.7% of newborns were low birthweight (*Table B22*). During the early and mid-1990s, both Louisiana and the nation saw an increase in the percentage of infants born with low birthweight. In recent years these percentages appear to be leveling off (*Table B22*).

**Table B22.**  
**Percent of Live Births Less Than 2500 Grams**  
**Louisiana and United States 1991-2001**

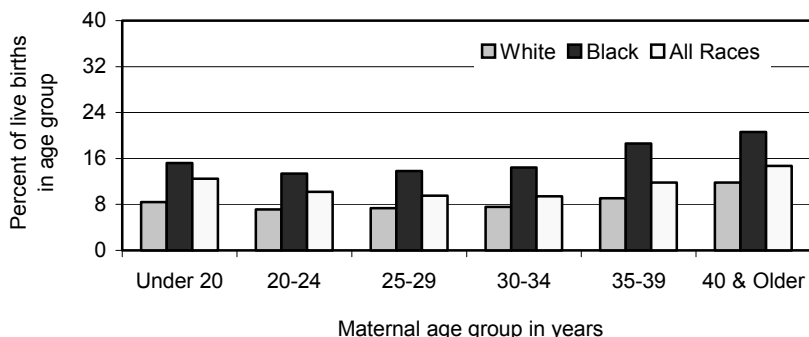
Year	Louisiana	United States
1991	9.0	7.1
1992	9.4	7.1
1993	9.4	7.2
1994	9.6	7.3
1995	9.7	7.3
1996	9.9	7.4
1997	10.2	7.5
1998	10.1	7.6
1999	10.0	7.6
2000	10.6	7.6
2001	10.5	7.7

Sources: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics and National Center for Health Statistics

Black mothers gave birth to infants of low birthweight nearly twice as frequently as white mothers did, at 14.4% of all live births among black women compared with 7.7% of live births among white women. This relationship between low birthweight and race also was evident at the national level (*Table B23*). A higher prevalence of low birthweight births among blacks was apparent in all age groups in Louisiana (*Figure B14*, *Table B24*).

Among the maternal age groups, mothers aged 40 and older had the highest percentage of low birthweight babies at 14.7%. However, the total number of live births among women in this age category was smaller than in other age groups. Women under 20 years of age had the second highest percentage of low birthweight babies (12.5% of live births).

**Figure B14. Percent of Live Births Less Than 2500 Grams by Maternal Age Louisiana, 2001**



**Table B23. Percent\* of Live Births Less Than 2500 Grams by Maternal Race, Louisiana and United States, 2001**

Location	Maternal Race		
	All Races <sup>+++</sup>	White	Black
Louisiana	10.5	7.7	14.4
United States	7.7	6.7	13.0

\*Percent of live births in specified race group.

<sup>+++</sup>All races<sup>+</sup> includes white, black and other

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics  
National Center for Health Statistics

**Table B24. Percent\* of Live Births Less than 2500 Grams by Maternal Age and Race Louisiana, 2001**

Race	Maternal Age						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	All Ages
All Races <sup>+++</sup>	12.5	10.2	9.5	9.4	11.8	14.7	10.5
White	8.4	7.1	7.3	7.6	9.1	11.8	7.7
Black	15.2	13.4	13.8	14.4	18.6	20.6	14.4

\*Percent of live births in specified age and race group.

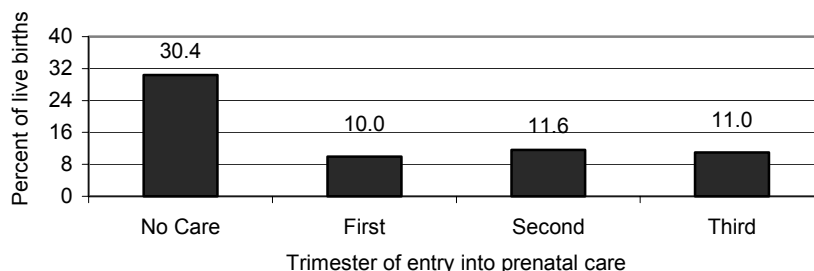
<sup>+++</sup>All races<sup>+</sup> includes white, black and other

The prevalence of low birthweight births to mothers who had no prenatal care was 30.4%; more than double that of births to mothers with prenatal care beginning in the first, second or third trimesters. Among mothers who received prenatal care, mothers who entered prenatal care in the second or third trimester had higher percentages of low birth weights than the mothers who entered prenatal care in the first trimester (*Figure B15*).

Infants weighing less than 1500 grams at birth (3 lbs. 5 oz.) are considered to be **very low birthweight** and are at much greater risk of mortality and long-term disability than higher weight infants. Although recent medical advances have greatly reduced the risk of death for smaller infants, the risk of early death for a very low birthweight infant is about 65 times that of infants who weigh at least 1500 grams<sup>15</sup>.

Of all births to Louisiana residents in 2001, 2.3% of infants weighed less than 1500 grams. By comparison, 1.5% of infants born nationwide were very low birthweight. As with low birthweight infants, the frequency of very low birthweight babies differed by race. Black mothers gave birth to very low birthweight infants nearly three times as frequently as white mothers did, at 3.7% compared with 1.4% of live births (*Table B25*).

**Figure B15. Percent of Live Births Less than 2500 Grams by Trimester of Entry into Prenatal Care Louisiana, 2001**



**Table B25. Percent<sup>+</sup> of Live Births Less than 1500 Grams by Maternal Age and Race Louisiana, 2001**

Race	Maternal Age						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	All Ages
All Races <sup>+++</sup>	2.6	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.9	3.1	2.3
White	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.3	2.0	2.1	1.4
Black	3.5	3.3	3.7	4.2	5.0	5.2	3.7

<sup>+</sup>Percent of live births in specified maternal age and race group

<sup>+++</sup>"All races" includes white, black and other



**Table B26.**  
**Number of Live Births by Live Birth Order and Birthweight**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Birth Order	Total	Birthweight in Grams								Weight Unk.	Under 2500	Percent of Total Live Births
		999 and less	1000-1999	2000-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-3999	4000-4499	4500 and Over			
ALL	65193	798	2032	3989	13438	25198	15509	3663	553	13	6819	10.46
1	25660	332	756	1561	5505	10136	5896	1283	185	6	2649	10.32
2	21225	234	566	1173	4065	8266	5450	1282	188	****	1973	9.30
3	11306	123	395	679	2318	4305	2691	683	109	****	1197	10.59
4	4265	59	163	317	909	1569	964	244	40	0	539	12.64
5	1514	29	66	131	361	517	303	97	10	0	226	14.93
6	632	14	47	65	146	208	103	38	11	0	126	19.94
7	269	6	16	31	67	91	39	17	****	0	53	19.70
8	136	0	8	20	28	45	28	5	****	0	28	20.59
9	60	****	5	****	11	21	9	7	****	0	9	15.00
10	30	0	****	****	****	9	10	****	****	0	****	13.33
11	15	0	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	0	5	33.33
12	12	0	****	****	****	****	****	****	****	0	****	16.67
13	6	0	****	0	****	****	0	0	0	0	****	16.67
14	****	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16 +	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unk.	62	0	5	****	14	23	12	****	0	****	7	11.29

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

**Table B27.**  
**Number and Percent<sup>+</sup> of Live Births by Infant Birthweight, Infant Sex, and Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Weight in Grams	All Races		White				Black				Other			
			Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 500	203	0.31	34	0.18	23	0.13	69	0.50	73	0.56	****	0.13	****	0.43
500-749	284	0.44	46	0.24	48	0.27	109	0.78	79	0.60	****	0.26	0	0.00
750-999	311	0.48	53	0.28	48	0.27	120	0.86	87	0.66	****	0.13	****	0.28
1000-1499	707	1.08	126	0.67	126	0.71	225	1.62	224	1.71	****	0.39	****	0.43
1500-1999	1325	2.03	266	1.41	284	1.59	376	2.71	381	2.91	12	1.57	6	0.85
2000-2499	3989	6.12	809	4.28	959	5.37	986	7.10	1151	8.79	39	5.12	45	6.40
2500-2999	13438	20.61	2766	14.65	3494	19.56	3095	22.28	3715	28.36	164	21.52	204	29.02
3000-3499	25198	38.65	6892	36.50	7285	40.79	5346	38.49	5062	38.65	320	41.99	293	41.68
3500-3999	15509	23.79	5941	31.47	4470	25.03	2887	20.78	1914	14.61	175	22.97	122	17.35
4000-4499	3663	5.62	1669	8.84	989	5.54	579	4.17	363	2.77	40	5.25	23	3.27
4500 +	553	0.85	274	1.45	129	0.72	95	0.68	48	0.37	5	0.66	****	0.28
Unk.	13	0.02	5	0.03	****	0.02	****	0.02	****	0.01	0	0.00	0	0.00
Total	65193	100.00	18881	100.00	17859	100.00	13890	100.00	13098	100.00	762	100.00	703	100.00

<sup>+</sup>Percents may not add to 100 due rounding.

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

**Table B28.**  
**Number of Live Births by Birthweight, Maternal Age, and Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Age and Race	Total	Birthweight in Grams											Unk.
		499 and less	500-749	750-999	1000-1499	1500-1999	2000-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-3999	4000-4499	4500 and over	
All Races <sup>+++</sup>	65193	203	284	311	707	1325	3989	13438	25198	15509	3663	553	13
Under 15	220	0	****	****	6	****	22	62	84	34	****	0	****
15-19	10297	28	54	57	129	259	748	2579	4128	1943	335	34	****
20-24	21242	71	88	102	214	412	1284	4765	8552	4685	931	134	****
25-29	16132	47	62	65	162	295	906	2991	6256	4102	1071	173	****
30-34	11365	34	44	54	112	213	614	1969	4141	3192	862	129	****
35-39	4917	23	29	23	66	111	329	871	1709	1296	393	65	****
40-44	968	0	5	8	15	30	84	187	310	249	63	17	0
45 and over	46	0	0	0	****	****	****	12	18	5	****	****	0
Not Stated	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	0	0
White	36740	57	94	101	252	550	1768	6260	14177	10411	2658	403	9
Under 15	35	0	0	0	****	0	****	10	12	8	****	0	****
15-19	4204	6	19	11	26	70	222	856	1720	1057	198	16	****
20-24	10454	14	22	24	64	146	475	1976	4253	2784	604	91	****
25-29	10159	17	21	25	70	145	468	1616	3948	2901	822	125	****
30-34	7916	13	19	28	43	118	377	1181	2884	2479	665	108	****
35-39	3315	7	11	9	40	54	179	508	1151	995	310	49	****
40-44	618	0	****	****	7	15	45	103	196	180	53	13	0
45 and over	35	0	0	0	****	****	****	9	13	5	****	****	0
Not Stated	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	0	0
Black	26988	142	188	207	449	757	2137	6810	10408	4801	942	143	****
Under 15	182	0	****	****	5	****	21	51	70	26	****	0	0
15-19	5949	22	35	46	103	185	510	1686	2350	860	134	18	0
20-24	10438	56	65	77	149	262	788	2702	4161	1824	309	42	****
25-29	5519	30	41	40	91	145	414	1260	2118	1097	234	48	****
30-34	3088	18	24	24	65	92	222	700	1092	656	178	17	0
35-39	1480	16	18	14	26	55	146	332	511	271	77	14	0
40-44	319	0	****	****	8	15	35	75	101	66	8	****	0
45 and over	11	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	5	0	0	0	0
Not Stated	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	0	0	0

<sup>+++</sup>All races" includes white, black and other

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

## Gestational Age

**Gestational age** is the interval between the first day of the mother's last normal menstrual period and the date of birth. The individual attending the birth records gestational age on the Louisiana birth certificate. Attendants use several different methods to estimate gestational age, including computing the interval between the first day of the mother's last normal menstrual period (LMP) and the date of birth, or determining a clinical estimate based on examination of the newborn. Standardized methods of measurement for determination of gestational age are difficult, especially among at-risk pregnancies in which minimal or no

prenatal ascertainment have been made.

Louisiana birth certificates record both the "Date Last Normal Menses Began" and the "Clinical Estimate of Gestation". LMP is subject to error from imperfect maternal recall or misidentification of the last normal menstrual period because of post-conception bleeding, delayed ovulation, or intervening early miscarriage. Therefore, the attendant's clinical estimate of gestation is used to determine gestational age in this report.

A birth is considered **preterm** if the gestational age at delivery is less than 37 weeks. There were 134 infants for

whom no estimate of gestational age was recorded.

Of all live births to Louisiana residents with information about gestational age, 12.3% were estimated to be preterm (*Table B29*). Black mothers delivered preterm infants more frequently than white mothers (15.8% versus 9.9% of live births, respectively). Younger mothers (under 20 years) and older mothers (40 and older) delivered preterm infants more frequently than any other age group at 13.4% and 15.2% of live births, respectively.

**Table B29.**  
**Number and Percent of Pre-Term Live Births (Less Than 37 Weeks) by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Race	Maternal Age Group													
	Under 20		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40 & older		All Ages	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Races***	1401	13.4	2565	12.1	1899	11.8	1337	11.8	654	13.3	153	15.2	8009	12.3
White	403	9.5	967	9.3	1005	9.9	813	10.3	354	10.7	79	12.2	3621	9.9
Black	983	16.1	1563	15.0	858	15.6	482	15.6	287	19.5	72	22.0	4245	15.8

\*\*\*"All races" includes white, black and other

## Multiple Births

Of all live births to Louisiana residents, 63,070 (96.7%) were part of a single delivery. 2,011 live births (3.1%) were part of a twin delivery, and 104 (0.2%) were part of a triplet delivery.

## Apgar Score

The **Apgar score** is a composite measure of the physical health of an infant shortly after birth. It is assessed at one and five minutes after birth, and is used to predict the infant's chances of survival.

Five easily identifiable characteristics – heart rate, respiratory effort, muscle tone, reflex irritability, and color – are each

assessed on a scale of zero to two, with two being optimal.

The Apgar score is the sum of these scores; a score of seven or higher (to a maximum of ten) indicates that the infant is in good physical condition. As the five-minute score is generally considered to be a better predictor of survival, it is the score reported here. In 2001, 146 (0.2%) of births in Louisiana did not have a recorded Apgar score.

Of all live births with a known Apgar score, 98.3% (63,915) of the infants had an Apgar score of at least 7 and 1.7% (1,132) of infants had low (0-6) Apgar scores.

Age and racial breakdowns were consistent with low birthweight percentages; infants born to very young mothers, older mothers, and those born to black mothers

received the highest percentages of below normal scores (*Table B30 and Table B31*).

**Table B30.**  
**Number and Percent of Births with**  
**Below Normal Five Minute Apgar Scores by Maternal Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Count/Percent	Maternal Race			
	White	Black	Other	All Races <sup>***</sup>
Number	393	719	20	1132
Percent	1.1	2.7	1.4	1.7

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>"All races" includes white, black and other

**Table B31.**  
**Number and Percent of Births with Below Normal Five Minute Apgar Scores by Maternal Age**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Count/Percent	Maternal Age						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & older	All Ages
Number	245	386	233	175	78	15	1132
Percent	2.3	1.8	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.7

## Abnormal Conditions of the Newborn

Abnormal conditions of the newborn are recorded on the birth certificate by checking any of eight listed conditions, or by specifying "other" or "none". More than one condition can be checked on a birth certificate. The two most commonly reported abnormal newborn conditions were assisted ventilation 30 minutes or more (at a rate of 6.1 per 1,000 live births) and assisted ventilation less than 30 minutes at a rate of 5.9 per 1,000 live births. The third most commonly reported abnormal condition was hyaline membrane disease/ respiratory distress syndrome, at a rate of 3.9 per 1,000 live births (*Table B32*).

### Congenital Anomalies

Congenital anomalies are recorded on the birth certificate by checking any of 21 listed anomalies, or by specifying "none" or "other". More than one anomaly can be checked on a birth certificate. Because these events occur so infrequently, rates have been calculated for categories of anomalies.

In the year 2001 there were 630 birth certificates with at least one congenital anomaly reported (*Table B33 on page 44*). A total of 694 congenital anomalies were reported.

The most commonly reported category of congenital anomalies was musculoskeletal/ integumental anomalies at a rate of 23.9 per

10,000 live births. This includes cleft lip/palate, polydactyly/ syndactyly/adactyly, clubfoot, and diaphragmatic hernia, as well as other musculoskeletal/ integumental anomalies.

The second most commonly reported category was circulatory/ respiratory anomalies, which includes heart malformations, at a rate of 12.9 per 10,000 live births.

The third most commonly reported category was central nervous system anomalies at a rate of 10.4 per 10,000 live births. This category includes anencephalus, spina bifida/ meningocele, hydrocephalus, and microcephalus, as well as other central nervous system anomalies.

**Table B32.**  
**Counts<sup>1</sup> of Abnormal Conditions of the Newborn by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

CONDITION	Race	Total	Maternal Age													
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	Unk.
None	All	62079	206	476	987	1747	2755	3766	9731	20193	15391	10894	4696	921	42	5
	White	35236	33	137	325	623	1196	1703	3984	9987	9783	7619	3200	594	33	****
	Black	25430	170	335	653	1101	1508	2015	5612	9873	5167	2926	1375	296	9	****
	Other	1413	****	****	9	23	51	48	135	333	441	349	121	31	0	0
Anemia (HCT < 39/HGB < 13)	All	22	0	0	****	****	0	****	****	5	9	****	0	****	0	0
	White	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	6	****	0	0	0	0
	Black	13	0	0	****	****	0	****	****	****	****	****	0	****	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Birth injury	All	41	****	****	0	****	****	****	8	10	7	9	5	****	0	0
	White	17	0	****	0	0	****	****	****	****	****	7	****	0	0	0
	Black	21	****	0	0	****	****	****	5	6	5	0	****	****	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	0	0	0	0
Fetal alcohol syndrome	All	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	White	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hyaline membrane disease/ Respiratory distress syndrome	All	257	0	0	5	5	6	17	33	80	71	51	20	****	0	0
	White	146	0	0	****	****	****	8	13	41	45	33	13	****	0	0
	Black	110	0	0	****	****	****	9	20	38	26	18	7	****	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meconium aspiration syndrome	All	86	****	0	****	8	****	8	19	28	22	10	6	0	0	0
	White	32	0	0	****	0	0	****	****	9	10	5	5	0	0	0
	Black	54	****	0	0	8	****	6	16	19	12	5	****	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assisted Ventilation less than 30 minutes	All	386	5	5	6	21	22	29	83	141	76	55	22	****	0	0
	White	231	0	****	****	11	14	15	45	76	55	40	12	****	0	0
	Black	149	5	****	****	10	8	13	37	62	20	14	10	****	0	0
	Other	6	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
Assisted Ventilation 30 minutes or more	All	400	****	****	7	12	19	39	81	131	93	60	30	****	0	0
	White	228	****	****	****	5	9	23	40	67	57	40	21	****	0	0
	Black	166	0	****	****	7	10	16	40	62	35	18	9	****	0	0
	Other	6	0	0	****	0	0	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
Seizures	All	27	0	****	****	****	****	****	7	8	9	****	0	0	0	0
	White	14	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	5	****	****	0	0	0	0
	Black	11	0	****	0	****	****	****	****	****	5	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	****	0	0	0	****	****	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	All	2120	6	15	39	75	101	144	374	732	520	308	146	33	****	0
	White	901	0	****	****	21	30	64	121	290	230	179	66	15	0	0
	Black	1182	6	13	33	54	67	79	246	431	279	122	79	18	****	0
	Other	37	0	0	****	0	****	****	7	11	11	7	****	0	0	0
Unknown	All	79	0	0	0	****	****	8	12	16	8	21	14	****	****	****
	White	58	0	0	0	****	****	****	8	7	7	19	10	****	****	****
	Black	20	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	8	****	****	****	0	****	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup>This is a duplicated count. More than one condition was noted on some birth certificates.

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

**Table B33.**  
**Counts<sup>1</sup> of Congenital Anomalies by Type of Anomaly and Maternal Age**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Congenital Anomaly	Total	Maternal Age								Unk.
		Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
Total	694	6	115	250	149	113	48	13	0	0
Anencephalus	7	0	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0
Spina bifida/Meningocele	38	****	8	20	****	****	****	0	0	0
Hydrocephalus	14	0	****	5	****	5	0	0	0	0
Microcephalus	****	0	0	0	****	****	0	0	0	0
Other central nervous system anomalies	6	0	****	****	0	****	0	0	0	0
Heart malformations	37	0	0	15	11	6	5	0	0	0
Other Circulatory/Respiratory anomalies	47	0	12	16	6	8	5	0	0	0
Rectal atresia/Stenosis	****	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0
Tracheo esophageal fistula/Esophageal atresia	5	0	0	****	0	****	0	0	0	0
Omphalocele/Gastroschisis	9	0	****	****	****	****	****	0	0	0
Other gastrointestinal anomalies	11	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
Malformed genitalia	12	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
Renal agenesis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other urogenital anomalies	34	0	5	12	6	7	****	****	0	0
Cleft lip/Palate	39	****	8	10	9	6	****	****	0	0
Polydactyly/Syndactyly/Adactyly	54	****	12	16	12	9	****	****	0	0
Club foot	22	0	****	12	****	6	****	0	0	0
Diaphragmatic hernia	****	0	0	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
Other musculoskeletal/integumental anomalies	37	****	****	16	9	5	****	0	0	0
Down's syndrome	25	0	****	6	5	5	****	****	0	0
Other chromosomal anomalies	15	0	****	****	****	6	****	0	0	0
Other congenital anomalies	274	****	48	98	68	34	17	7	0	0

<sup>1</sup>This is a duplicated count. More than one congenital anomaly was noted on some birth certificates. 630 infants had at least one congenital anomaly.

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

## DELIVERY CHARACTERISTICS: MEDICAL PROCEDURES, COMPLICATIONS, AND FACILITIES

**Obstetric Procedures**

The attendant at birth records obstetric procedures on the birth certificate by checking any of 6 procedures performed, or by specifying "none" or "other". More than one procedure can be checked on a birth certificate.

The most frequently performed obstetric procedure was electronic fetal monitoring, at a rate of 823.4 per 1,000 mothers who had one or more live births during the 2001 calendar year. Electronic fetal monitoring was performed less often in black mothers than in white mothers, at a rate of 795.9 per 1,000 black mothers versus 845.0 per 1,000 white mothers.

The second most frequently performed procedure was ultrasound, at a rate of 643.1 per 1,000 mothers who had one or more live births during the calendar year. Ultrasound was performed less often in black mothers than in white mothers, at a rate of 580.1 per 1,000 black mothers versus 688.5 per 1,000 white mothers, respectively.

Among the 64,051 women who are known to have had one or more live births and whose record contained information on obstetric procedures performed during labor, no associated obstetric procedures were performed in 2,840 cases.

Black mothers were more than twice as likely to have no obstetric

procedures performed as white mothers, at a rate of 62.4 per 1,000 black mothers versus 30.6 per 1,000 white mothers. Despite the disparity, the overall number of women who have no obstetric procedure performed during delivery has decreased substantially in recent years. For both white and black women, substantially lower rates of women delivered without benefit of obstetric procedures in 2001, relative to 2000. In 2000, 81.7 per 1,000 black mothers and 58.7 per 1,000 white mothers had no obstetric procedure performed during delivery.

**Table B34.**  
**Number and Rates\* of Obstetric Procedures by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Obstetric Procedure	All Ages						All Races***			
	All Races***		White		Black		Under 20		35 & Older	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
None	2840	44.3	1105	30.6	1657	62.4	488	46.9	301	52.1
Electronic Fetal Monitoring	52740	823.4	30475	845.0	21123	795.9	8487	815.0	4681	810.0
Ultrasound	41192	643.1	24830	688.5	15396	580.1	6195	594.9	3872	670.0
Induction of Labor	10705	167.1	6990	193.8	3530	133.0	1790	171.9	747	129.3
Stimulation of Labor	6853	107.0	3940	109.2	2769	104.3	1289	123.8	488	84.4
Tocolysis	455	7.1	230	6.4	216	8.1	97	9.3	31	5.4
Amniocentesis	382	6.0	243	6.7	134	5.0	26	2.5	123	21.3
Other	1788	27.9	586	16.2	1158	43.6	413	39.7	141	24.4

\*Rate per 1,000 mothers who had one or more live births during the calendar year.

64,139 women had one or more live births during the calendar year.

\*\*\* "All races" includes white, black and other

**Table B35.**  
**Number<sup>+</sup> of Obstetric Procedures by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Obstetric Procedure	Race	Total	Maternal Age													Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
None	All	2840	17	22	74	86	142	147	471	926	659	465	247	53	****	****
	White	1105	****	****	14	16	37	43	112	306	299	234	128	23	0	****
	Black	1657	15	20	58	70	102	100	350	606	343	206	111	25	****	0
	Other	78	0	0	****	0	****	****	9	14	17	25	8	5	0	0
Amniocentesis	All	382	0	****	****	5	5	13	26	87	65	81	83	38	****	0
	White	243	0	0	****	****	****	5	10	46	39	57	64	27	0	0
	Black	134	0	****	****	****	****	8	16	40	25	22	18	11	****	0
	Other	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0
Electronic Fetal Monitoring	All	52740	174	397	837	1516	2313	3250	8313	17350	13090	9129	3883	763	35	****
	White	30475	27	122	287	557	1027	1522	3515	8808	8449	6470	2669	509	27	****
	Black	21123	144	273	541	939	1245	1696	4694	8270	4267	2381	1123	234	8	****
	Other	1142	****	****	9	20	41	32	104	272	374	278	91	20	0	0
Induction of Labor	All	10705	33	73	165	285	509	725	1757	3779	2673	1713	629	117	****	****
	White	6990	****	29	78	136	285	408	936	2352	1920	1277	420	80	0	****
	Black	3530	29	44	85	147	217	312	805	1382	692	394	192	33	****	****
	Other	185	0	0	****	****	7	5	16	45	61	42	17	****	0	0
Stimulation of labor	All	6853	20	62	133	242	345	487	1269	2374	1676	1026	398	86	****	0
	White	3940	****	17	38	98	148	237	538	1248	1106	709	270	63	****	0
	Black	2769	18	44	95	140	193	248	720	1093	515	284	116	23	0	0
	Other	144	0	****	0	****	****	****	11	33	55	33	12	0	0	0
Tocolysis	All	455	****	7	10	20	19	37	93	160	98	69	26	5	0	0
	White	230	0	0	****	****	8	14	27	74	54	56	18	****	0	0
	Black	216	****	6	9	15	11	23	64	86	39	11	8	****	0	0
	Other	9	0	****	0	****	0	0	****	0	5	****	0	0	0	0
Ultrasound	All	41192	107	280	555	1060	1728	2465	6088	13053	10375	7695	3216	625	31	****
	White	24830	21	92	196	431	824	1193	2736	6870	6852	5637	2270	419	24	****
	Black	15396	84	185	353	621	869	1241	3269	5965	3213	1812	858	187	7	****
	Other	966	****	****	6	8	35	31	83	218	310	246	88	19	0	0
Other	All	1788	10	23	37	90	101	152	403	645	366	223	114	27	0	0
	White	586	0	****	6	15	20	26	69	167	156	125	58	11	0	0
	Black	1158	10	21	31	75	81	123	331	463	197	91	50	16	0	0
	Other	44	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	15	13	7	6	0	0	0
Unknown	All	88	0	0	0	****	****	6	12	22	12	18	16	****	****	****
	White	60	0	0	0	****	****	****	6	10	8	16	13	****	****	****
	Black	27	0	0	0	0	****	****	6	11	****	****	****	0	****	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>+</sup>This is a duplicated count. More than one procedure was noted on some birth certificates.

64,139 women had one or more live births during the calendar year.

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.



## Complications of Labor and/or Delivery

Complications of labor and/or delivery are recorded on the birth certificate by checking any of 15 listed complications, or specifying "none" or "other". More than one complication can be recorded on a birth certificate.

The three most commonly reported complications of labor and/or delivery were moderate or heavy meconium (36.6 per 1,000 mothers), fetal distress (26.1 per 1,000 mothers), and breech or

malpresentation (24.6 per 1,000 mothers). Rates varied considerably by race; the rates of moderate or heavy meconium and fetal distress were higher for black mothers (50.7 and 29.2 per 1,000 black mothers, respectively) than for white mothers (26.5 and 24.1, respectively), while the rate of breech/malpresentation was higher for white mothers (28.4 per 1,000 white mothers)

than for black mothers (19.6 per 1,000 black mothers).

Among the 64,139 women who had one or more live births in 2001, no complications of labor and/or delivery were recorded in 47,753 cases. White mothers were more likely to have no reported complications than black mothers were, at a rate of 760.2 per 1,000 mothers versus 725.2 per 1,000 mothers, respectively.

**Table B36.**  
**Number<sup>1</sup> and Rates<sup>+</sup> of Complications of Labor and/or Delivery by Maternal Race and Age**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Complication	All Ages						All Races <sup>***</sup>			
	All Races <sup>***</sup>		White		Black		Under 20		35 & Older	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
No complication Noted	47753	745.4	27422	760.2	19251	725.2	7483	718.6	4323	747.3
Meconium, moderate/heavy	2345	36.6	955	26.5	1345	50.7	511	49.1	204	35.3
Fetal distress	1671	26.1	871	24.1	776	29.2	335	32.2	141	24.4
Breech/malpresentation	1579	24.6	1025	28.4	521	19.6	181	17.4	215	37.2
Cephalopelvic disproportion	989	15.4	643	17.8	324	12.2	168	16.1	76	13.1
Premature rupture of membrane (<12 hours)	851	13.3	354	9.8	472	17.8	176	16.9	80	13.8
Febrile (>100 degrees F)	660	10.3	340	9.4	301	11.3	179	17.2	33	5.7
Precipitous labor (< 3 hours)	644	10.1	196	5.4	426	16.0	124	11.9	58	10.0
Dysfunctional labor	552	8.6	308	8.5	223	8.4	135	13.0	34	5.9
Abruptio placenta	242	3.8	90	2.5	145	5.5	40	3.8	29	5.0
Placenta previa	138	2.2	93	2.6	43	1.6	10	1.0	28	4.8
Prolonged labor (> 20 hours)	132	2.1	63	1.7	65	2.4	38	3.6	8	1.4
Other excessive bleeding	131	2.0	67	1.9	61	2.3	24	2.3	14	2.4
Cord Prolapse	96	1.5	45	1.2	50	1.9	11	1.1	12	2.1
Anesthetic complications	30	0.5	18	0.5	11	0.4	****	0.3	7	1.2
Seizures during labor	14	0.2	****	0.1	10	0.4	****	0.4	****	0.2

<sup>1</sup>This is a duplicated count. More than one procedure was noted on some birth certificates.

64,139 women had one or more live births during the calendar year.

<sup>+</sup>Rate per 1,000 mothers who had one or more live births during the calendar year.

\*\*\*\*"All Races" includes white, black and other

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

**TABLE B37.**  
**Counts<sup>1</sup> of Complications of Labor and/or Delivery by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Complication	Race	Total	Maternal Age													Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
No complication noted	All	47753	158	360	707	1298	2068	2892	7325	15564	11911	8467	3584	704	35	5
	White	27422	26	117	246	462	911	1330	3066	7764	7593	5984	2500	457	29	****
	Black	19251	130	241	455	817	1122	1526	4161	7545	3988	2210	986	223	6	****
	Other	1080	****	****	6	19	35	36	98	255	330	273	98	24	0	0
Febrile (<100 degrees F)	All	660	****	6	25	40	49	57	177	239	131	78	30	****	0	0
	White	340	0	0	****	11	20	29	62	120	92	49	16	****	0	0
	Black	301	****	6	22	29	29	28	114	114	31	24	14	****	0	0
	Other	19	0	0	****	0	0	0	****	5	8	5	0	0	0	0
Meconium, moderate/heavy	All	2345	15	33	59	101	132	171	496	769	532	329	172	32	0	0
	White	955	****	****	12	22	40	51	127	271	266	177	97	13	0	0
	Black	1345	11	29	45	79	90	120	363	487	251	143	72	18	0	0
	Other	45	0	****	****	0	****	0	6	11	15	9	****	****	0	0
Premature rupture of membrane (<12 hours)	All	851	****	9	18	36	49	61	173	284	191	120	65	14	****	0
	White	354	0	0	****	13	25	24	63	116	80	62	29	****	0	0
	Black	472	****	9	17	23	22	36	107	162	103	51	35	10	****	0
	Other	25	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	6	8	7	****	0	0	0
Abruptio Placenta	All	242	****	****	****	11	11	13	39	76	49	48	24	5	0	0
	White	90	0	****	0	****	****	5	9	25	15	26	11	****	0	0
	Black	145	****	****	****	9	9	8	29	49	34	19	12	****	0	0
	Other	7	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	0	****	****	0	0	0
Placenta previa	All	138	0	0	0	0	****	6	10	27	36	37	24	****	0	0
	White	93	0	0	0	0	****	****	5	13	25	30	20	0	0	0
	Black	43	0	0	0	0	****	****	5	14	10	6	****	****	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	0	0	0	0
Other excessive bleeding	All	131	0	****	****	6	6	9	24	42	31	20	10	****	0	0
	White	67	0	****	****	****	****	5	11	16	19	14	5	****	0	0
	Black	61	0	****	0	5	****	****	13	26	11	****	5	****	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	0	0	0	0
Seizures during labor	All	14	0	0	****	0	****	0	****	5	****	****	****	0	0	0
	White	****	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
	Black	10	0	0	****	0	****	0	****	****	****	****	****	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Precipitous labor (<3 hours)	All	644	****	5	18	23	33	42	121	211	160	91	49	9	0	0
	White	196	****	****	****	7	10	10	31	46	54	44	18	****	0	0
	Black	426	****	****	16	16	23	32	90	161	97	39	31	6	0	0
	Other	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	9	8	0	****	0	0
Prolonged labor (>20 hours)	All	132	****	****	****	5	9	16	35	41	26	19	7	****	0	0
	White	63	0	0	0	****	****	9	13	16	13	15	5	****	0	0
	Black	65	****	****	****	****	7	7	22	24	11	****	****	0	0	0
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	0	0	0	0

Table B37 continues on the next page.

**TABLE B37 (continued).**  
**Counts<sup>1</sup> of Complications of Labor and/or Delivery by Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Complication	Race	Total	Maternal Age														Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older		
Dysfunctional labor	All	552	****	****	12	32	29	57	134	213	107	63	28	6	0	0	
	White	308	0	****	****	13	16	33	66	114	71	35	18	****	0	0	
	Black	223	****	****	9	19	12	22	65	92	29	24	10	****	0	0	
	Other	21	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	7	7	****	0	0	0	0	
Breech/ Malpresentation	All	1579	****	7	22	40	43	66	178	429	383	371	169	43	****	0	
	White	1025	0	****	11	26	25	34	97	242	272	269	121	22	****	0	
	Black	521	****	6	11	13	18	30	78	181	99	93	47	19	****	0	
	Other	33	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	6	12	9	****	****	0	0	
Cephalopelvic Disproportion	All	989	****	5	19	31	51	58	164	320	266	159	65	10	****	0	
	White	643	0	****	9	12	30	31	83	195	194	113	50	8	0	0	
	Black	324	****	****	10	19	21	26	80	125	59	38	15	****	****	0	
	Other	22	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	0	13	8	0	0	0	0	
Cord Prolapse	All	96	****	0	****	****	****	****	10	42	19	12	11	****	0	0	
	White	45	0	0	****	0	0	****	****	15	12	10	5	0	0	0	
	Black	50	****	0	****	****	****	0	7	26	7	****	6	****	0	0	
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Anesthetic Complications	All	30	0	0	0	****	****	0	****	8	5	7	****	****	0	0	
	White	18	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	5	****	5	0	****	0	0	
	Black	11	0	0	0	****	****	0	****	****	0	****	****	0	0	0	
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	0	0	0	0	
Fetal Distress	All	1671	7	23	42	53	80	130	328	598	347	249	116	25	0	****	
	White	871	****	5	20	26	38	61	150	278	215	150	62	14	0	****	
	Black	776	6	18	22	27	40	68	175	315	125	92	53	10	0	0	
	Other	24	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	5	7	7	****	****	0	0	
Other	All	8928	37	70	162	285	419	570	1506	2942	2219	1457	639	124	****	****	
	White	4771	****	13	43	97	168	250	571	1440	1337	965	370	82	****	****	
	Black	3943	33	57	113	185	238	314	907	1449	815	447	251	40	****	0	
	Other	214	****	0	6	****	13	6	28	53	67	45	18	****	0	0	
Unknown	All	79	0	0	0	****	****	8	12	18	12	20	12	****	****	0	
	White	55	0	0	0	****	****	****	8	11	7	16	9	****	0	0	
	Black	22	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	6	****	****	****	0	****	0	
	Other	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	****	0	0	0	0	0	

<sup>1</sup>This is a duplicated count. More than one procedure was noted on some birth certificates.

64,139 women had one or more live births during the calendar year.

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

### Method of Delivery

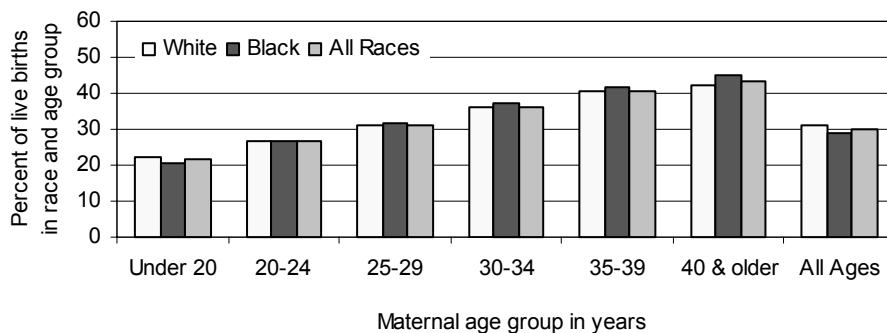
Final data for the year 2001 collected by the National Center for Health Statistics reports that Louisiana had the highest rate of cesarean deliveries in the country.

Nearly one third (29.9%) of all live births in Louisiana in 2001 were

primary or repeat cesarean deliveries, compared with 24.4% for the United States overall. Cesarean deliveries occurred more frequently among white mothers than among black mothers, at 31.1% versus 28.7% of live births,

respectively. Black mothers aged 40 and older had the highest percentage of live births (45.0%) delivered via cesarean section (Figure B16, Table B38 and Table B39).

**Figure B16. Percent of Live Births by Cesarean Delivery, Maternal Age, and Maternal Race  
Louisiana, 2001**



**Table B38.  
Percent<sup>+</sup> of Live Births by Cesarean Delivery by Maternal Age and Race  
Louisiana, 2001**

Maternal Race	Maternal Age Group						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & older	All Ages
All Races <sup>+++</sup>	21.4	26.8	31.2	36.2	40.4	43.3	29.9
White	22.4	26.8	31.2	36.3	40.4	42.2	31.1
Black	20.6	26.9	31.9	37.1	41.6	45.0	28.7

<sup>+</sup>Percents of live births in specified maternal age and race group

<sup>+++</sup>"All Races" includes white, black and other

**Table B39.**  
**Number<sup>1</sup> of Deliveries by Method of Delivery, and Maternal Age and Race**  
**Louisiana, 2001**

Method	Race	Total	Maternal Age													
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	Unk.
Vaginal	All	41428	168	366	735	1310	2071	2768	7250	14160	10098	6570	2660	495	24	****
	White	22852	28	112	241	449	870	1228	2900	6908	6318	4571	1785	322	19	****
	Black	17589	139	253	487	844	1160	1510	4254	7017	3463	1763	788	158	5	****
	Other	987	****	****	7	17	41	30	96	235	317	236	87	15	0	0
Vaginal \ Forceps	All	1581	7	15	45	67	90	127	344	530	356	242	85	17	0	0
	White	1065	****	****	17	32	53	78	183	345	273	183	68	12	0	0
	Black	463	5	11	27	33	36	46	153	172	69	44	15	5	0	0
	Other	53	****	****	****	****	****	****	8	13	14	15	****	0	0	0
Vaginal \ Forceps & Vacuum	All	29	0	0	0	****	5	0	8	6	6	6	****	****	0	0
	White	21	0	0	0	****	****	0	****	****	5	6	****	0	0	0
	Black	8	0	0	0	****	****	0	****	****	****	0	****	****	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vaginal \ Vacuum	All	1105	****	14	39	46	99	78	276	367	253	143	48	14	0	0
	White	605	****	****	12	15	42	29	101	211	166	87	31	8	0	0
	Black	466	****	11	26	30	54	48	169	147	74	51	16	6	0	0
	Other	34	0	0	****	****	****	****	6	9	13	5	****	0	0	0
Vaginal birth after previous C-Section	All	704	0	0	****	10	14	24	51	250	180	146	63	14	0	0
	White	329	0	0	0	0	6	11	17	82	95	92	36	7	0	0
	Black	358	0	0	****	10	8	13	34	165	76	51	26	6	0	0
	Other	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	9	****	****	****	0	0
Vaginal birth after previous C-Section \ Forceps	All	31	0	0	0	0	****	****	6	8	12	****	****	0	0	0
	White	18	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	****	8	****	****	0	0	0
	Black	13	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	5	****	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vaginal birth after previous C-Section \ Forceps & Vacuum	All	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	White	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vaginal birth after Previous C-Section \ Vacuum	All	17	0	0	****	0	0	****	****	6	****	5	****	****	0	0
	White	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	****	0	0
	Black	10	0	0	****	0	0	****	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0
	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Primary C-Section	All	10807	34	88	181	364	492	719	1844	3369	2586	1863	898	202	10	****
	White	6348	****	20	58	147	237	358	820	1791	1730	1298	580	120	5	****
	Black	4224	30	66	120	214	247	349	996	1526	784	506	302	75	5	0
	Other	235	****	****	****	****	8	12	28	52	72	59	16	7	0	0
Repeat C-Section	All	7992	0	****	12	31	78	186	311	2136	2246	2079	1013	200	7	0
	White	4654	0	****	****	8	25	75	113	941	1318	1446	703	126	7	0
	Black	3225	0	****	8	23	52	110	196	1165	905	595	297	67	0	0
	Other	113	0	0	0	0	****	****	****	30	23	38	13	7	0	0
Unknown	All	445	6	11	15	20	18	51	115	128	84	67	35	5	****	****
	White	227	****	****	****	7	6	21	38	53	49	49	28	5	****	****
	Black	210	5	9	13	13	11	30	76	73	32	16	7	0	****	0
	Other	8	0	0	0	0	****	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup>64,139 women had one or more live births during the calendar year.

\*\*\*\* in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

<sup>1</sup> National Center for Health Statistics, "Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2000 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set" National Vital Statistics Report 50:12 (Aug. 2002):22.

<sup>2</sup> National Center for Health Statistics, "Revised Birth and Fertility Rates for the United States, 2000 and 2001" National Vital Statistics Report 51:4 (Feb. 2003) :7.

<sup>3</sup> National Vital Statistics Report 51:4 (Feb. 2003):7.

<sup>4</sup> National Vital Statistics Report 51:4 (Feb. 2003):7.

<sup>5</sup> Ventura SJ and Curtin SC, "Recent trends in births in the United States 2 -12", Statistical Bulletin- Metropolitan Insurance Companies 80:1 (1999).

<sup>6</sup> National Center for Health Statistics, "Revised Birth and Fertility Rates for the United States, 2000 and 2001" National Vital Statistics Report 51:4 (Feb. 2003) :7.

<sup>7</sup> The Alan Guttmacher Institute, "Teen Sex and Pregnancy" Facts in Brief (Sept. 1999).

<sup>8</sup> Louisiana Task Force on Teen Pregnancy, "Consequences of Adolescent Pregnancy", (Mar. 1999):9-10.

<sup>9</sup> "Consequences of Adolescent Pregnancy", (Mar. 1999):27.

<sup>10</sup> "Consequences of Adolescent Pregnancy", (Mar. 1999):28.

<sup>11</sup> McIntire DD, Bloom SL, Casy BM, Laveno KJ. "Birth Weight in Relation to Morbidity and Mortality among Newborn Infants" New England Journal of Medicine 340 :16 (Apr. 1999):1234-1238.

<sup>12</sup> Pace B, "High- Risk Infants" Journal of the American Medical Association 284:16 (Oct. 2000):2142.

<sup>13</sup> Waldman HB. Perlman SP, "Low Birthweight babies grow older, but there could be many problems" Journal of Dentistry for Children 68:5-6 (Sep- Dec 2001) 356-359,302.

<sup>14</sup> Hack M, Klein NK and Talyor HG, "Long-term developmental outcomes of low birthweight infants" The Future of Children, 5 (Spring 1995); 19-34.

<sup>15</sup> National Center for Health Statistics, "Report of Final Natality Statistics, 1995" Monthly Vital Statistics Report 45:11 (June 1997):16.